



## Venite, exultemus Domino 608

- 1 O come, let us sing | unto · the Lord;  
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of | our salvation.
  - 2 Let us come before his presence with | **thanks**giving;  
and show ourselves | glad in him with psalms.
  - 3 For the Lord is a | **great** God;  
and a great | King above all gods.
  - 4 In his hand are all the corners | of the earth;  
and the strength of the hills is | **his** also.
  - 5 The sea is | his, and · he made it;  
and his hands prepared · the **dry** land.
  - 6 O come, let us worship and | **fall** down,  
and kneel before the | Lord our **Maker**.
  - 7 For he is the | Lord our God;  
and we are the people of his pasture, and the | sheep of **his** hand.
  - 8 O worship the Lord in the | beauty · of holiness;  
let the whole earth | stand in awe of him.
  - 9 For he cometh, for he cometh to | judge the earth;  
and with righteousness to judge the world, and the | peoples with his truth.
- Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,  
and | to the Holy Ghost;
- As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be,  
world without | **end**. Amen.

## The First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”

But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three

years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 27**

*All stand.*

*The psalm is recited responsively, the people speaking after the asterisk.*

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? \*  
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, \*  
they stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; \*  
and though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.
- 4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require; \*  
even that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the fair beauty of the Lord, and to visit his temple.
- 5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle; \*  
yea, in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me,  
and set me up upon a rock of stone.
- 6 And now shall he lift up mine head \*  
above mine enemies round about me.
- 7 Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation, with great gladness; \*  
I will sing and speak praises unto the Lord.
- 8 Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto thee; \*  
have mercy upon me, and hear me.
- 9 My heart hath talked of thee, Seek ye my face: \*  
Thy face, Lord, will I seek.
- 10 O hide not thou thy face from me, \*  
nor cast thy servant away in displeasure.
- 11 Thou has been my succour; \*  
leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

- 12 When my father and my mother forsake me, \*  
the Lord taketh me up.
- 13 Teach me thy way, O Lord, \*  
and lead me in the right way, because of mine enemies.
- 14 Deliver me not over into the will of mine adversaries: \*  
for there are false witnesses risen up against me, and such as speak wrong.
- 15 I should utterly have fainted, \*  
but that I believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- 16 O tarry thou the Lord's leisure; \*  
be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart; and put thou thy trust in the Lord.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Ghost;
- As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

**The Second Lesson: Philippians 3:17–4:1**

*All sit.*

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

*Reader*     The Word of the Lord.  
*People*     Thanks be to God.

**Anthem**

*See Our Loved Jesus*  
Senior Youth Choir

Georg Böhm

See, our loved Jesus is like to the roses, wrapping their purple in covering of thorn;  
Yet he is lovelier far than the bushes, which the fair meadows adorn.  
For the deep wounds of our sins he will cherish; tended by him we never shall perish.

**The Third Lesson: Luke 13:31-35**

*All sit.*

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to

be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Benedictus (640, verses 1-8)**

*All stand.*

- 1 Blessed be the Lord God of | Israel;  
for he hath visited and re | deemed · his **people**;
  - 2 And hath raised up a mighty sal | vation for us,  
in the house of his | servant **David**;
  - 3 As he spake by the mouth of his | holy Prophets,  
which have | been · since the | world began;
  - 4 That we should be saved | from our enemies,  
and from the hand of | all that **hate** us.
  - 5 To perform the mercy promised to our | **forefathers**,  
and to remember his | holy covenant;
  - 6 To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather | Abraham,  
that | he would **give** us;
  - 7 That we being delivered out of the | hand of · our enemies  
might | serve him without fear;
  - 8 In holiness and righteous | ness before him,  
all the | days of **our** life.
- Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,  
and | to the Holy Ghost;
- As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be,  
world without | **end. Amen.**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant and People*

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary: suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost: the holy catholic church; the communion of saints: the forgiveness of sins: the resurrection of the body: and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Versicles

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*All kneel.*

*Officiant* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*People* And grant us thy salvation.

*Officiant* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*People* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## The Collect for the Day

*Officiant*

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The Prayers

### A General Thanksgiving

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; and above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

## The Grace

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## Birthday Prayer

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, keeping them unspotted from the world. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

