

Behind and before, you fence me in,
and you place your hand up- | on me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high, I cannot | grasp it.

_Where shall I go from your Spirit?
or where shall I flee from | your face?

If I ascend into heaven, you are there:
if I make my bed in hell, behold, you | are there.

If I take the wings of dawn,
and dwell on the far side of | the sea,

_even there your hand will lead me,
and your right hand will | hold me.

_If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,"
then the night will become light a- | round me.

Yes, the darkness is not dark to you, but the night shines as the day;
darkness and light are both alike | to you.

For you have my innermost parts in your power;
you knit me together in my moth- | er's womb.

I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
wonderful are your works, and that my soul knows | full well.

My substance was not hidden from you, when I was made in secret,
when I was formed in the lower parts of | the earth.

Your eyes saw me when I was yet unfinished, and in your book all
the days were written, that were still to be,
when not one of them | yet was.

How precious are your thoughts to me, O God!
How vast is the sum | of them!

If I should count them, they would be more than the grains of sand;
when I awake, I am still | with you.

_Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God!
Depart from me, you bloodthirst- | y men!

For they speak against you wickedly,
and your enemies rise up with- | out cause.

Do I not hate those, O LORD, who hate you?
And am not I grieved with those who stand a- | gainst you?

I hate them with complete hatred;
they have become my en- | emies.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me, and know | my thoughts.

And see if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way ever- | lasting.

Glory | be to the Father, and to | the Son, *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it | was | in the beginning, | is now, and ever | shall be, *
forevermore. | Amen.

P (*Antiphon*) How precious are your thoughts to me, | O God!
How vast is the sum | of them!

Sit

First Lesson

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

After each Lesson:

P O Lord, have mercy upon us.



R Thanks be to You, O Lord!

Second Lesson

2 Timothy 1:3-14

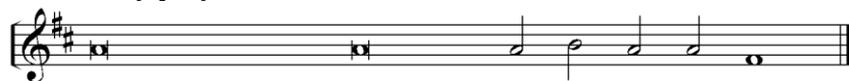
Hymn

TLH #441 – We Give Thee But Thine Own

Sermon

Stand

V Let my prayer be set before You as incense.



R And the lifting up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

The Canticle

The Nunc Dimittis — Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now | You | let Your servant | de- | part | in | peace, *
accord- | ing | to | Your | word:

For | my | eyes have seen | Your | sal- | va- | tion, *

Which You have prepared before the face | of | all | peo- | ples;

A | — | Light for enlighten- | ing | the | Gen- | tiles, *

and for glory to Your | peo- | ple | Is- | rael.

Glo- | ry | be to the Father, | and | to | the | Son, *

and to the | Ho- | ly | Spir- | it;

As | it | was | in the beginning, is now, and | ev- | er | shall | be, *

forev- | er- | more. | A- | men.

Prayers



C Lord, have mer - cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy up-on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up-on us.

C 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.

P The Lord be with you.



R And with your spir - it.

The Pastor says one or more Collects. After each, the congregation sings:



R A - men.

P Let us bless the Lord.



R Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



R A - men.
