

*HYMN: "I Will Follow"*

Where You go I'll go Where You stay I'll stay  
When You move I'll move I will follow

All Your ways are good All Your ways are sure  
I will trust in You alone Higher than my sight  
High above my life I will trust in You alone

Chorus: Where You go I'll go Where You stay I'll stay  
When You move I'll move I will follow You  
Whom You love I'll love How You serve I'll serve  
If this life I lose I will follow (You)

Light into the world Light into my life  
I will live for You alone You're the One I seek  
Knowing I will find All I need in You alone  
In You alone

In You there's life everlasting In You there's freedom for my soul  
In You there's joy unending joy And I will follow

Yeah I will follow You yeah I will follow You yeah  
I will follow You yeah

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*INVOCATION*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*OPENING SENTENCES*

**P** How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,

**C** **who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.**

**P** Their voice has gone out to all the earth,

**C** **and their words to the ends of the world.**

**P** Have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

**C** **In your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION*

**P** Let us confess our sin to God, our gracious Father.

**C** **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we humbly confess our sins to You. We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have not observed and honored Your Law in our thinking, speaking, or doing. We have followed our own ways and have not obeyed Your commands. We have not always been merciful, meek, or peaceable. We repent of our many sins and ask Your forgiveness.**

**P** In His mercy, God hears our confession and responds with forgiveness and love. As a called and ordained servant of my Lord Jesus Christ and at His gracious command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ☩ peace.

**C Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. O gracious God, Your servant and apostle James was the first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out upon the leaders of Your Church that spirit of self-denying service that they may forsake all false and passing allurements and follow Christ alone, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE*** “*The Saving One*”

There is a name That echoes on eternal shores  
With all believers who have come before Jesus Christ forevermore

Chorus: Your love is amazing Grace never fails me  
You are the saving One You reach from the heavens  
Hope of the nations You are the saving One

There is a Light Forever beautiful and bright  
Undivided by the darkest night The morning star Jesus Christ

The rivers clap their hands The mountains bow their heads  
And all creation cries Your praise will never end  
And this is all for You You're making all things new  
Let all creation cry Your praise will never end  
Your praise will never end Your praise will never end

There is a name That echoes on eternal shores  
That all of heaven and earth adore Jesus Christ forevermore

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***FIRST READING*** Acts 11:27–12:5

**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

***EPISTLE*** Romans 8:28–39

**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 10:35–45**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Jesus Lead Thou On (LSB 718)*

Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won;  
And although the way be cheerless, We will follow calm and fearless.  
Guide us by Thy hand To our fatherland.

If the way be drear, If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o’ertake us; Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many a woe To our home we go.

When we seek relief From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring, Make us patient and enduring.  
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.

Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won.  
Heav’nly leader, still direct us, Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

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**SERMON****NICENE CREED****PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, rejoicing that through it, the message of salvation has been preserved and transmitted. Grateful for the witness of James the Elder and other faithful disciples, we pray that the message of salvation be proclaimed and the gifts of God be shared in all generations.

Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the world in which we live. On our journey as pilgrims through this world, help us to live as peacemakers to make the world a better place and to enjoy the blessings we receive each day with thankful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** As we follow in the footsteps of St. James, grant that we find ways to encourage all disciples of our Lord in these times, especially affirming and supporting the work of pastors and educators, missionaries, and those engaged in Christian charitable work, [including . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Remembering at the throne of mercy all those with special needs and concerns this day, we now pray for the hospitalized, the grieving, the unemployed, the shut-ins, and all others for whom our petitions are desired, [including . . .]. Enable us, O Lord, to encourage, uphold, and strengthen those around us in Your saving and healing name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** As we bring our petitions, Lord, we remember not only St. James the Elder, but all who have departed this life and now are rejoicing in the glory of Your promised heavenly kingdom. Direct our ways on earth that we complete this life in faith and at last rejoice together with saints and angels and all the company of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**C** **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER***

***BLESSING***

**P** The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be and remain with you always.

**C** **Amen.**