



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

March 29, 2020

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

## WORSHIP THEME

The illness and death of Lazarus happened "*that the Son of God may be glorified through it*" ([John 11:4](#)). Jesus' miracle of raising Lazarus prompted His arrest and crucifixion, whereby He would die "*for the nation*" and gather "*into one the children of God who are scattered abroad*" ([John 11:51-52](#)). As He called Lazarus from the tomb and commanded others to "*unbind him, and let him go*" ([John 11:44](#)), Jesus also calls us and releases us from the bondage of sin and death. We would not "*submit to God's law*," nor could we "*please God*" ([Rom. 8:7-8](#)), but "*He condemned sin*" in His own flesh, so "*that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us*" ([Rom. 8:3-4](#)). Now, through the Gospel, "*the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells*" in us ([Rom. 8:11](#)). His Word breathes His Spirit into our mortal flesh, animating us with His own life. As His ministers preach according to His divine command, the Lord Jesus calls us from the grave into the good land that He gives us ([Ezek. 37:12, 14](#)).

The Scripture readings for Lent 5 prepare us in marvelous ways for the central focus of Holy Week and the entire Christian faith: Christ's death and resurrection.

# The Service of the Word

## OPENING HYMN

110 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es  
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might  
stow, But such dis - dain! So few The longed - for  
sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas  
spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the  
way. A mur - der - er they save; The Prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my  
Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -  
to their King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their  
blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at  
life they slay. Yet cheer - ful he To suff'r - ing



sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
deed, Who at my need His life did spend!  
breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.  
these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.  
goes That he his foes From death might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb  
But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heav'n was his home  
But mine the tomb  
Wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing;  
No story so divine,  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.  
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## INVOCATION

*Please stand*

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

*We cannot approach God without having our sins forgiven. He is holy and we are not. Confession assures us of a clean conscience before God and prepares us for worship and to hear his Word.*

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

## HYMN

302 Lord, to You I Make Confession (vs. 1, 2)

1. Lord, to you I make confession: I have sinned and gone astray  
I have multiplied transgression, Chosen for myself my way.  
Led by you to see my errors, Lord, I tremble at your terrors.
2. Yet, though conscience' voice appall me, Father, I will seek your face.  
Though Your child I dare not call me, Yet receive me to your grace.  
Do not for my sins forsake me; Do not let your wrath o'ertake me.

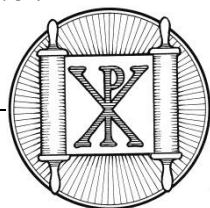
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

3. For your Son has suffered for me, Giv'n himself to rescue me,  
Died to save me and restore me, Reconciled and set me free.  
Jesus' cross alone can vanquish These dark fears and sooth this  
anguish.
4. Lord, on you I cast my burdens – Sink it in the depths below!  
Let me know your gracious pardon; Wash me, make me white as snow.  
Let your Spirit leave me never; Make me only yours forever.

## The Service of the Word

*Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.*



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to  
remember Jesus, who obeyed your will  
and bore the cross for our salvation that  
through his anguish, pain, and death we  
may receive forgiveness of sins and  
inherit eternal life; through your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*Be seated*

The **Collect** (also known as the "Prayer of the Day") is a concise prayer which "collects" the thoughts of the day and presents them to God in his mercy. Many of these prayers have been in use in the church for more than 1,500 years.

## FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1–14

*Israel was as good as a dead valley of dry bones, but God in his mercy promises life. God sent his Spirit to bring life through his Word. God instructs Ezekiel to speak to the bones so that they “hear” the “word.”*

**37** The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by his Spirit and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them. There were a great many of them on the surface of the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

I replied, “Lord GOD, only you know.”

<sup>4</sup>He said to me, “Prophecy concerning these bones and say to them: Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord GOD says to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you will live. <sup>6</sup>I will put tendons on you, make flesh grow on you, and cover you with skin. I will put breath in you so that you come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup>As I looked, tendons appeared on them, flesh grew, and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath,<sup>[a]</sup> prophecy, son of man. Say to it: This is what the Lord GOD says: Breath, come from the four winds and breathe into these slain so that they may live!” <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me; the breath entered them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, a vast army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Look how they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished; we are cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore, prophecy and say to them: ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them, my people, and lead you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>You will know that I am the LORD, my people, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup>I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live, and I will

settle you in your own land. 'Then you will know that I am the LORD. I have spoken, and I will do it. This is the declaration of the LORD.'”

## PSALM

Psalm 116



I love the LORD, for he heard my voice.

he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,

I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;

when I was in great need, he saved me.

### ***Refrain***

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,

my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD

for all his goodness to me?

I will live up the cup of salvation

and call on the name of the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### ***Refrain***

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

*The Spirit brings life.*

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus,<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>2</sup> because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you<sup>[b]</sup> free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> What the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering,<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>4</sup> in order that the law's requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Now the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind-set of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit<sup>[d]</sup> gives life<sup>[e]</sup> because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through<sup>[f]</sup> his Spirit who lives in you.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 10:45

**The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

*Alleluia – During the season of Lent our joy is undiminished but our rejoicing is muted and quiet. For centuries Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including “Alleluia,” which means, “Praise the Lord.”*

*Stand*



## THE GOSPEL

John 11:1–53

*Jesus felt the sting of death. Lazarus died and Jesus wept, but he also promised life to all who believe.*



**C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!**

**11** Now a man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair, and it was her brother Lazarus who was sick. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to him: “Lord, the one you love is sick.”

<sup>4</sup> When Jesus heard it, he said, “This sickness will not end in death but is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So when he heard that he was sick, he stayed two more days in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after that, he said to the disciples, “Let’s go to Judea again.”

<sup>8</sup> “Rabbi,” the disciples told him, “just now the Jews tried to stone you, and you’re going there again?”

<sup>9</sup> “Aren’t there twelve hours in a day?” Jesus answered. “If anyone walks during the day, he doesn’t stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But if anyone walks during the night, he does stumble, because the light is not in him.”

<sup>11</sup> He said this, and then he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I’m on my way to wake him up.”

<sup>12</sup> Then the disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will get well.”

<sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, was speaking about his death, but they thought he was speaking about natural sleep. <sup>14</sup> So Jesus then told them plainly, “Lazarus has died. <sup>15</sup> I’m glad for you that I wasn’t there so that you may believe. But let’s go to him.”

<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas (called “Twin”<sup>[a]</sup>) said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go too so that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem (less than two miles<sup>[b]</sup> away). <sup>19</sup> Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

<sup>20</sup> As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Then Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn’t have died. <sup>22</sup> Yet even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

<sup>23</sup> “Your brother will rise again,” Jesus told her.

<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. <sup>26</sup> Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

<sup>27</sup> “Yes, Lord,” she told him, “I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who comes into the world.”

<sup>28</sup> Having said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”

<sup>29</sup> As soon as Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Jesus had not yet come into the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw that Mary got up quickly and went out. They followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to cry there.

<sup>32</sup> As soon as Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and told him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died!”

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her crying, and the Jews who had come with her crying, he was deeply moved<sup>[a]</sup> in his spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> “Where have you put him?” he asked.

“Lord,” they told him, “come and see.”

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Couldn’t he who opened the blind man’s eyes also have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> “Remove the stone,” Jesus said.

Martha, the dead man’s sister, told him, “Lord, there is already a stench because he has been dead four days.”

<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”

<sup>41</sup> So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. <sup>42</sup> I know that you always hear me, but because of the crowd standing here I said this, so that they may believe you sent me." <sup>43</sup> After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out bound hand and foot with linen strips and with his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unwrap him and let him go."

<sup>45</sup> Therefore, many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what he did believed in him. <sup>46</sup> But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

<sup>47</sup> So the chief priests and the Pharisees convened the Sanhedrin and were saying, "What are we going to do since this man is doing many signs? <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

<sup>49</sup> One of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all! <sup>50</sup> You're not considering that it is to your<sup>[d]</sup> advantage that one man should die for the people rather than the whole nation perish." <sup>51</sup> He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, <sup>52</sup> and not for the nation only, but also to unite the scattered children of God. <sup>53</sup> So from that day on they plotted to kill him.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



# HYMN OF THE DAY

211 I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name

1 I know of a sleep in Je - sus' name, A  
 2 I know of a morn - ing, bright and fair When  
 3 God's Son to our graves then makes his way; His  
 4 O Je - sus, draw near my dy - ing bed And  
 rest from all toil and sor - row; Earth folds in her  
 ti - dings of joy shall wake us, When songs from on  
 voice hear all tribes and na - tions; The trum - pet of  
 take me in - to your keep - ing And say when my  
 arms my wea - ry frame And shel - ters it till the  
 high shall fill the air And God to his glo - ry  
 God will sound the day And shake all the earth's foun -  
 spir - it hence is fled, "This child is not dead, but  
 mor - row. My soul is at home with God in  
 take us, When Je - sus shall bid us rise from  
 da - tions. He calls out a - loud, "O dead, come  
 sleep - ing." And leave me not, Sav - ior, till I  
 heav'n; My sor - rows are past and o - ver.  
 sleep— How joy - ous that hour of wak - ing!  
 forth!" In glo - ry we rise to meet him.  
 rise To praise you in life e - ter - nal.

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnary*, Decorah, 1913, alt.  
 Tune: DEN SIGNEDE DAG (98 98 98) Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842.

## SERMON

John 11:1-53

Did you die?

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.	2 Cor. 6:18 Is. 51:13
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.	1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18 Lk. 1:35 Lk. 1:34; 2:7 Lk. 23:16 Mt. 27:32-61; Mk 15:21-47 Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42 1 Pet. 3:19 1 Cor. 15:4b Ac. 2:33-34 Heb. 1:13 Mt. 25:31 2 Tim. 4:1
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.	Mt. 3:16-17 Eph. 5:23 Eph. 4:3-6 Rom. 4:6-8 1 Cor. 15:13-19 1 Th. 4:17

*Be seated*

## OFFERING

*We understand times are tough for many of our members. We only ask that you remain faithful in the use of gifts God has given you. Offerings are gathered throughout the week and placed on the altar. If you would like to give an offering, mail it to the church, drop it off, or even donate online at our website via Vanco. Thank you for continuing to support Christ Lutheran Church.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: We were dead in our sins, but the word of God entered into our tomb and called us out into new life. Let us pray to the Father, knowing that he listens to us.

M: Dear Father in Heaven, thank you for the gift of new life that you have given to us through the waters of baptism. Help us, as your baptised people to daily die to sin and rise to new life with Christ in the power of the Spirit. Lord in your mercy:

C: **hear our prayer**

M: We pray for all those who are mourning the death of a loved one. Comfort them in the knowledge that Jesus has won a victory over death, so that everyone who dies in Christ may have eternal life. Keep us from fearing death, but at times of doubt, help us trust in Jesus. Lord in your mercy:

C: **hear our prayer.**

M: We pray for hospices and for people who work with the dying. Keep them strong, and give them peace to do their difficult work with dignity and sensitivity. We pray for all those people who work with alcoholics and drug addicts. Use them to make a difference to people's lives, and to help them start their life anew. Lord in your mercy:

C: **hear our prayer**

M: As we move close to Easter, help us to live as Easter people who face death in the certain hope of resurrection. Remind us and comfort us every day with your promise that we will be raised up together with all who have died in the faith of Christ. Lord in your mercy:

C: **hear our prayer**

M: Heavenly Father, through the death and resurrection of your Son, you rescue us from death and the grave. Restore us to life, so that we may serve you in the world; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## 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 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.

*Be seated*

## HYMN

## 108 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, Ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
 2 Dare we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent

whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry,  
 pent - ant vow, As we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing,  
 love for you! May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing

Sav - ior from the world a - bove, Oh, how oft your  
 See your thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Since your sin - less  
 To be - hold your cross a - new, Till in glo - ry,

eyes, of - fend - ed, Gaze up - on a sin - ner's fall! Yet, up -  
 death has brought us Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest, On - ly  
 part - ed nev - er From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en

on the cross ex - tend - ed, You en - dured the pain of all.  
 what your grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
 in our hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied!

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-96, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

## PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



## THE BLESSING

*Numbers 6:22-27*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



# CLOSING HYMN

## 752 In Christ Alone



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.  
 2 In Christ a - lone— who took on flesh,  
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,  
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,



He is my light, my strength, my song;  
 Full - ness of God in help - less babe.  
 Light of the world by dark - ness slain;  
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;



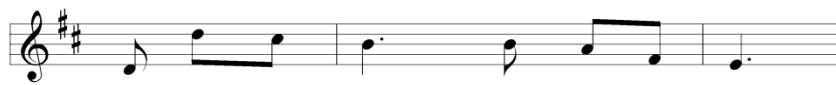
This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,  
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness,  
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day  
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,



Firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.  
 Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
 Up from the grave he rose a - gain!  
 Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
 Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,  
 And as he stands in vic - tor - y,  
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man



When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!  
 The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;  
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,  
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.  
 For I am his and he is mine—  
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

Here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

(Fine)

*This christological hymn summarizes the sacrificial, earthly life of our Savior and the glory that is now his forever and ours through faith.*

Tune: IN CHRIST ALONE (88 88 D)

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