

# PROMISES KEPT

## God Promises Peace



*Think about what life would be like without God's promises; there would be no Jesus, no hope, no salvation. God's promises are vital for us. With that in mind, as we prepare our hearts for the first coming of Jesus in grace and his second coming in glory, we will examine three specific promises of God and their New Testament fulfillments: Peace, Blessing, and a Throne. May God bless our Advent meditations.*

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
**the light no darkness can overcome.**

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
**and the day is almost over.**

Be our light and scatter the darkness,  
**and hear our evening prayer and praise.**

**Hymn**

362 *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising*

### **Luther's Evening Prayer**

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

# Reading

Genesis 3:8-24

Peace needed and promised.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

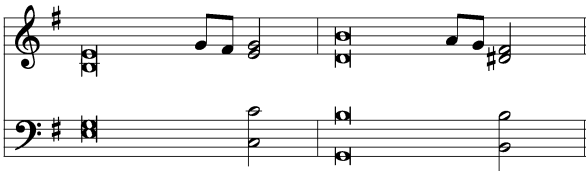
85A LORD, in Your Mercy, Hear My Prayer

Refrain



LORD, in your mer - cy hear my prayer; your good-ness nev - er fails.

Tone



You, LORD, forgave the iniquity of your / people  
and covered / all their sins.

**You set aside / all your wrath  
and turned from your fierce / anger.**

Show us your unfailing / love, LORD,  
and grant us your sal-/vation. **Refrain**

I will listen to what God the / LORD says;  
he promises peace to his / people.

**Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him,  
that his glory may dwell / in our land.**

Love and faithfulness meet to-/gether;  
righteousness and peace kiss each / other.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be-/ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

## Reading

Hebrews 2:10-18

*Peace accomplished and restored.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

329 *All My Heart Again Rejoices*

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Song of Mary

CW 220

*Please use the hymnal if this song is unfamiliar.*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed.**

**The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him in ev'ry generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our fathers, to Abraham,  
and to his children forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Connect Card

## Offering

*Stand*

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Blessing**

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

**Amen.**

## **Hymn**

*787 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven*

### **Acknowledgments**

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