

† GATHERING †

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Welcome! As you enter the nave of the Church, please be respectful of those preparing for worship with prayer and meditation. The assembly participates in worship by speaking the text printed in **boldface** type.*

VOLUNTARY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly may kneel or remain seated.

All may make the sign of the cross (†), the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another,

we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

We forget that we are your children

and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One,

and assure us again of your saving grace.

Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

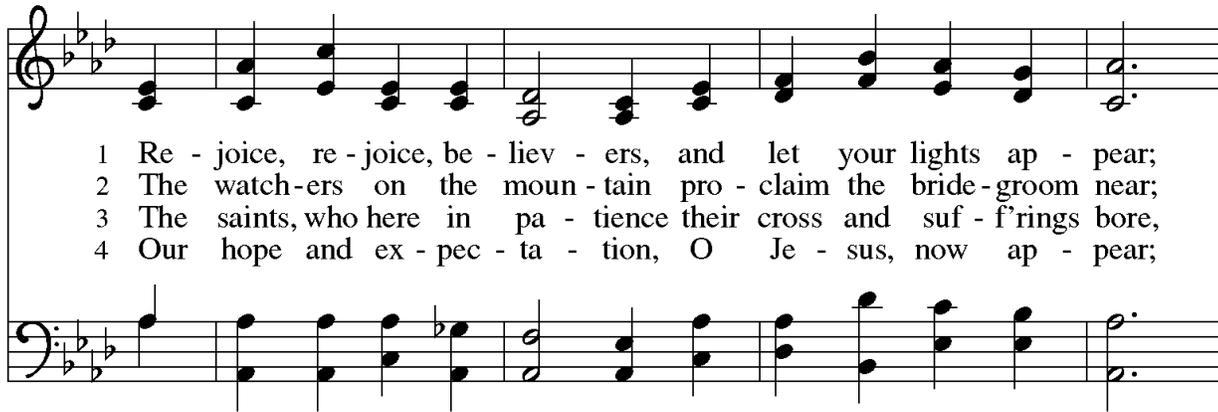
Through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise,

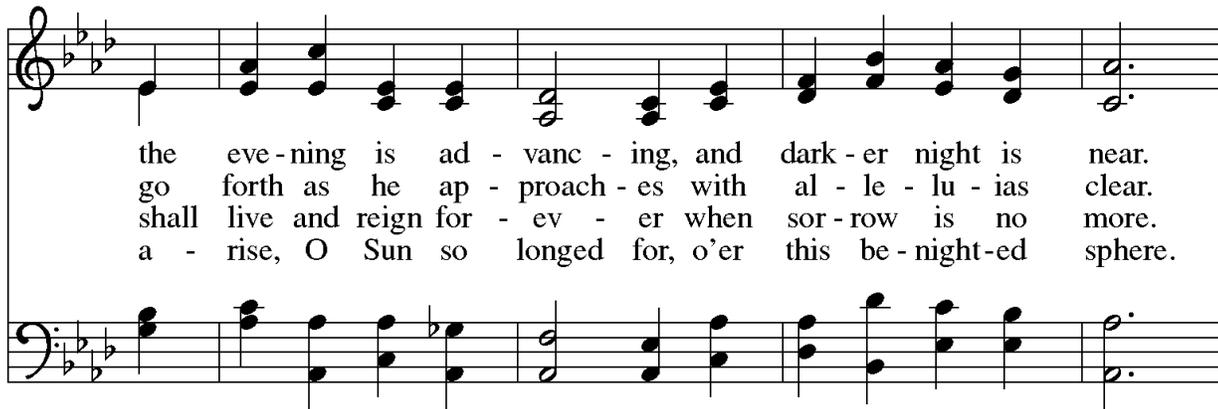
and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

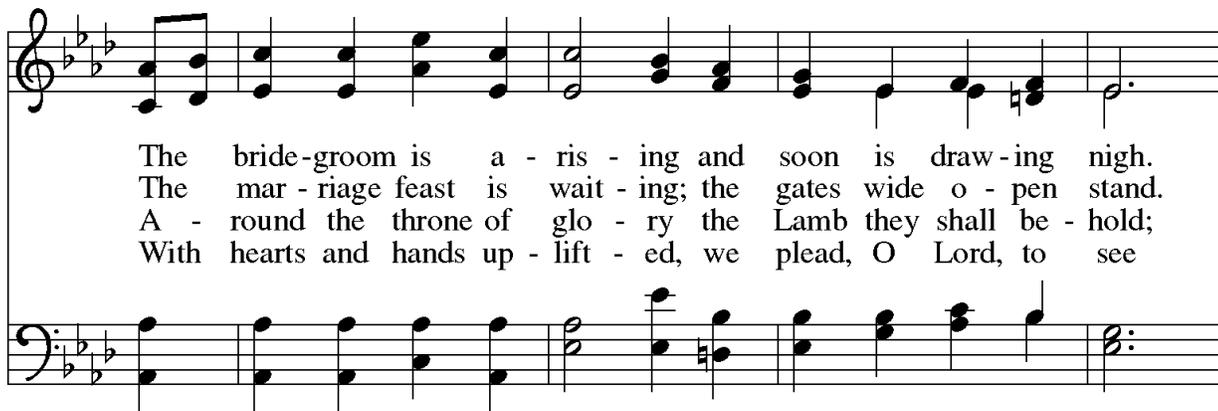
GATHERING HYMN



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

GREETING

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God,
and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

Ky - ri - e e -
le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son,
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

† WORD †

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A Reading from Jeremiah

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 25:1-10

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). Chords are indicated above the vocal line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 LORD, to you my soul is lift - ed. Let me nev - er be a - shamed
2 LORD of cov - e - nant and good - ness, par - don and cor - rect my sin.
3 Turn to me in grace and mer - cy, as I suf - fer all a - lone.

that I trust in you to keep me though I seem to wait in vain.
They who wor - ship you and fear you choose the paths you choose for them.
Take a - way my sin and sad - ness, all the trou - ble I have known.

continues on next page

Em D/F# G C G D Em D G

LORD, re - mem - ber all your love; in your ho - ly will in - struct me.
 They and all their fam - i - ly shall pos - sess the earth for - ev - er.
 May my fierce and spite - ful foes not suc - ceed to harm and curse me.

C D Em G D Am D G

LORD, do not re - mem - ber sins of those youn - ger years be - hind me.
 You, O LORD, will be their friend. From the snare you will de - liv - er.
 In your faith - ful - ness I hope. On your peo - ple, LORD, have mer - cy.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Words: Stanley Wiersma (1930-1986), 1980, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources
 Music (GENEVAN 25 | 8.7.8.7.7.8.7.8): Louis Bourgeois (ca. 1510-1561), 1551; harm. Howard Slenk, 1985,
 © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

SECOND READING: I Thessalonians 3:9-13

A Reading from First Thessalonians.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

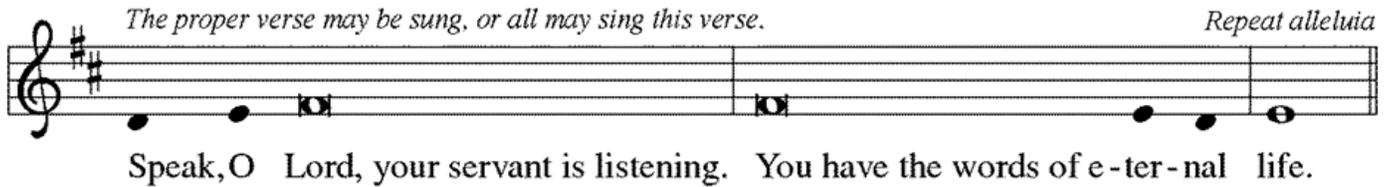
¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the Gospel.



Music: Bob Moore, b. 1962
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated

SERMON

You Better Watch Out

Pastor Brad Carroll



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with a sign of peace. The assembly is seated.

† MEAL †

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps - André Thomas

Chancel Choir

After the musical offering, the assembly rises in body or spirit and joins singing.



Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer.

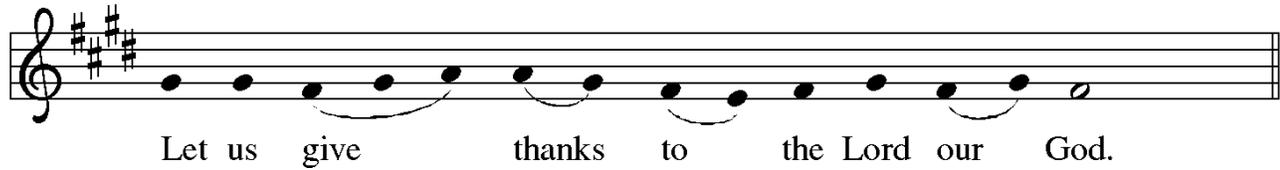
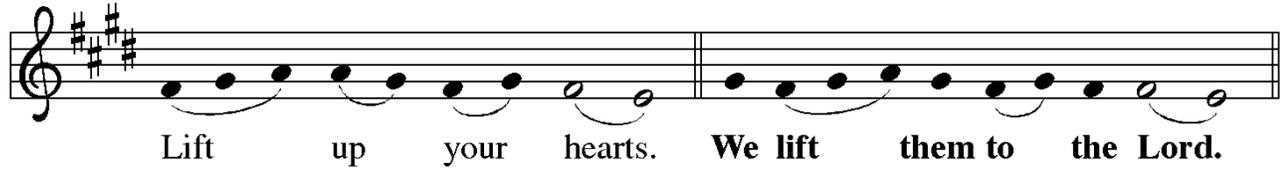
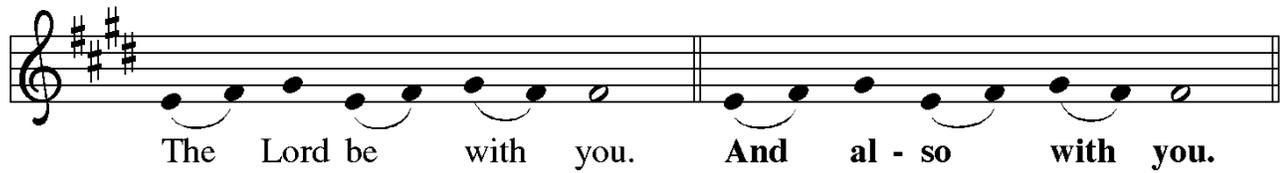
Let us pray.

God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.

Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

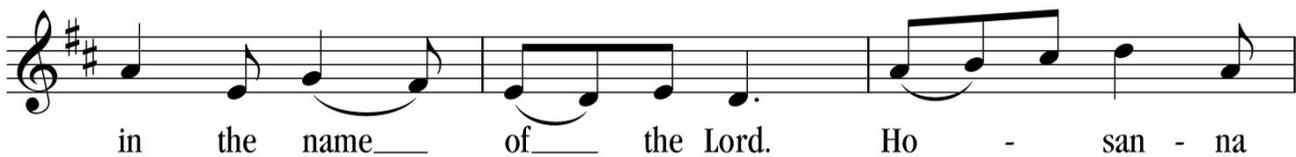
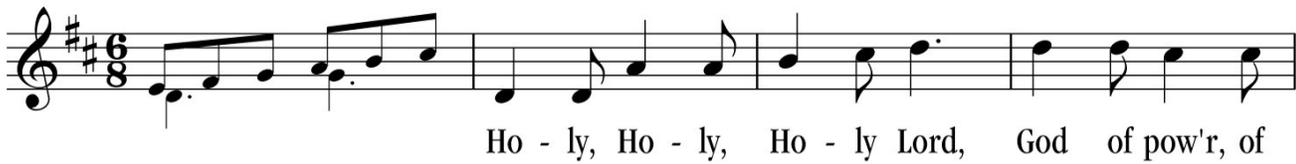
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The Presiding Minister continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

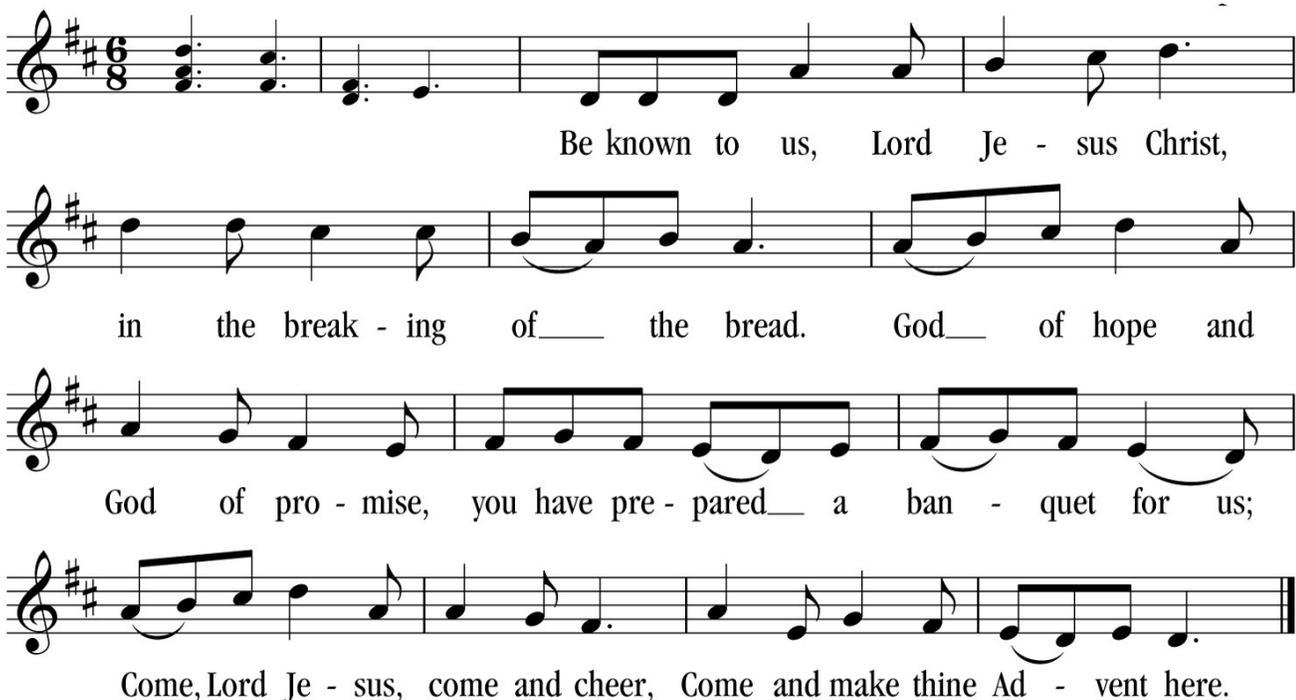
Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The assembly may be seated.

*As you come forward to the altar, take a glass from the tray at the front pew.
The pre-filled glasses contain grape juice.*

All are invited to join singing during the distribution.

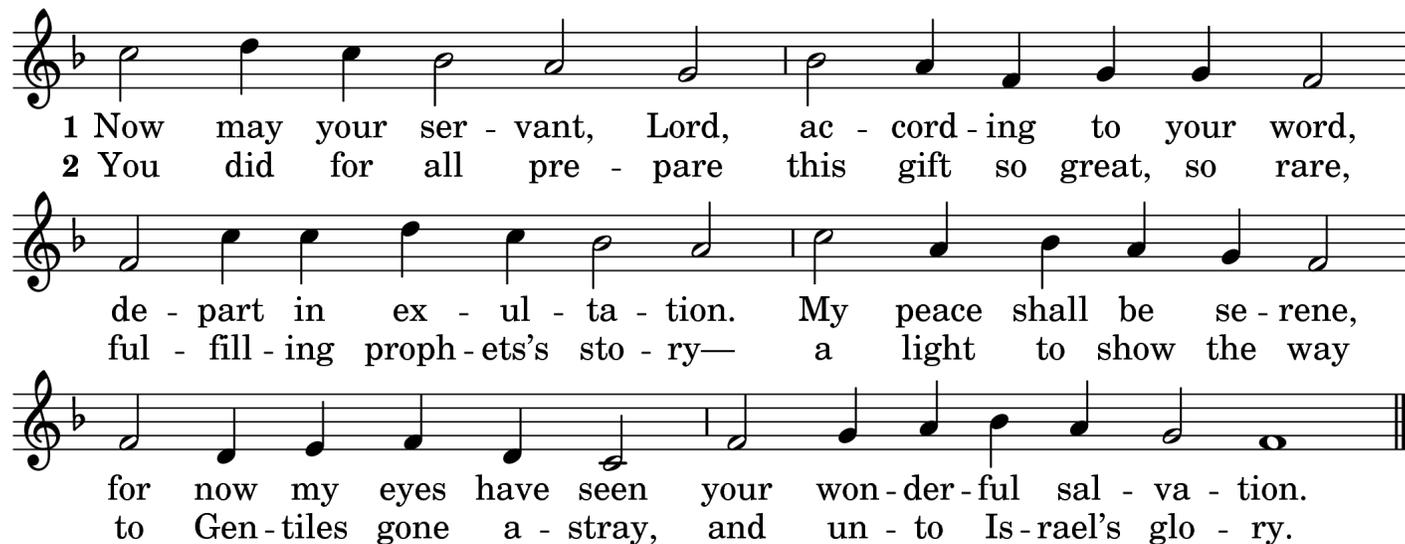


Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ,
in the break - ing of the bread. God of hope and
God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us;
Come, Lord Je - sus, come and cheer, Come and make thine Ad - vent here.

After all have received the sacrament, the assembly rises in body or spirit.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



1 Now may your ser - vant, Lord, ac - cord - ing to your word,
2 You did for all pre - pare this gift so great, so rare,
de - part in ex - ul - ta - tion. My peace shall be se - rene,
ful - fill - ing proph - ets's sto - ry— a light to show the way
for now my eyes have seen your won - der - ful sal - va - tion.
to Gen - tiles gone a - stray, and un - to Is - rael's glo - ry.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer.

Let us pray.

Most High God,

you have come among us at this table.

By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,

sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,

through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.



† SENDING †

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

At the conclusion of the Blessing, all respond: Amen

SENDING HYMN

Worship book #259



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weisdel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen. *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Please be seated to listen as the Voluntary concludes today's worship.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY:	
Altar Guild	Cheryl Hilbert-Gonzalez, Kris Seedorff, Morgan Kline
Assisting Minister	Renee Gombert
Crucifer	Morgan Kline
Greeters	Ed & Nancy Miller
Lector	Sally MacGowan
Head Usher	Larry Greene
Sacramental Deacon	Sally MacGowan
Worship Attendance:	November 21: 61

Today	11/28	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Holy Communion Vestry Meeting
Monday	11/29	7:15 PM	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	12/1	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Sunday	12/5	10:30 AM	Holy Communion

JEFFERSON SCHOOL HOLIDAY GIFT COLLECTION

Please bring gifts for Jefferson School students to the Gathering Place by Sunday, December 12. Gifts should be wrapped and have a post-it note denoting the content. Here is a list of requested items:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Lego sets (star wars, Minecraft, etc) | Coloring books and markers |
| Barbies | LOL dolls |
| Among Us figurines | Dinosaurs |
| Fidget toys | Bayblades |
| Squeeze balls | Hotwheels |
| Footballs, basketballs, soccer balls etc. | Roblox |
| Squishmellows | Mermaid barbies |
| Mini brands | Pretend dogs and cats |
| Pop-its | Disney Princess barbie dolls |



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Church Staff

The Rev. Bradley T. Carroll, Pastor, bcarroll@sjat.org
 Eric G. Gombert, Cantor, egombert@sjat.org
 Scott Boka, Sexton, sboka@stjohnsallentown.org

Vestry

Debra Clark
President

Lance Burgess
Vice President

Millie Sekulski
Secretary

Donna Waldt
Treasurer

Linda Bollinger
Kathy Groh
Sara MacGowan
Jon Maury
John Seedorff