

The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

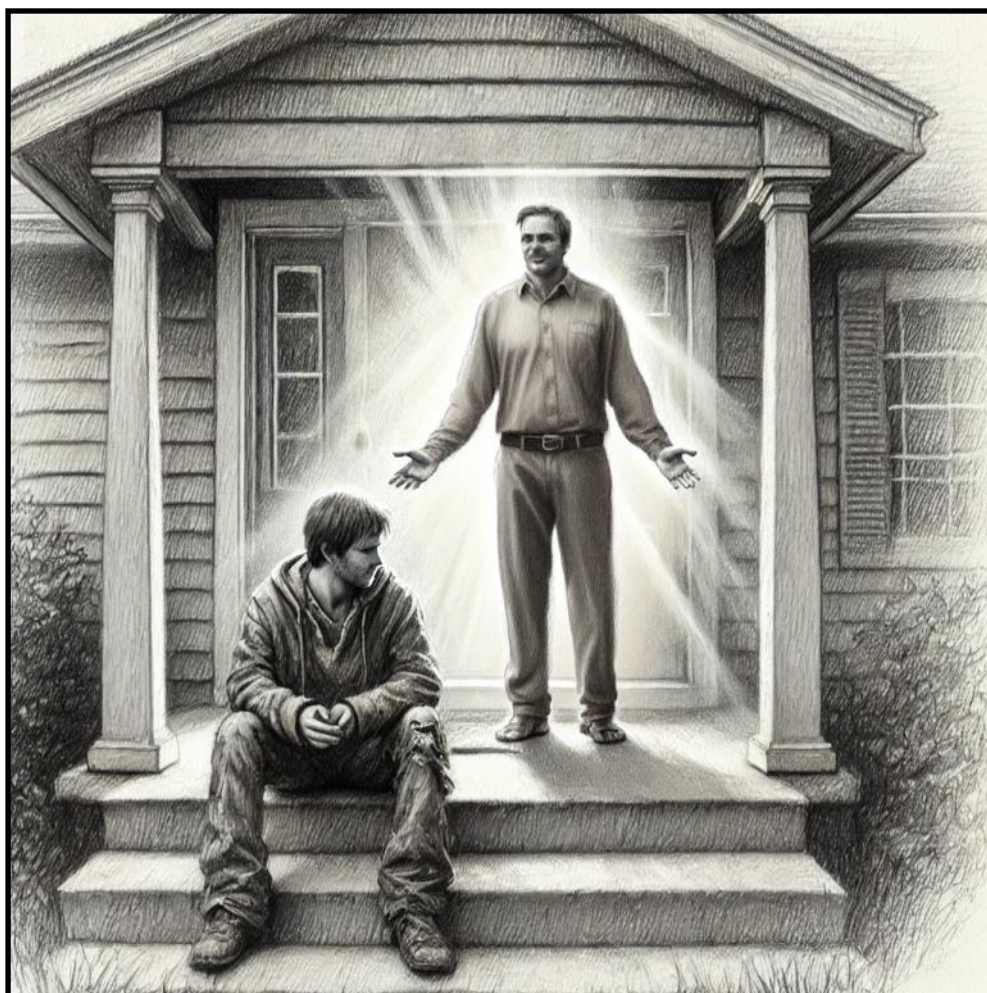
2415 Chili Avenue, Rochester, NY 14624

www.oursaviourrochester.org



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!



Sunday: March 30, 2025



Prelude

Welcome & Announcements & Reception into the Church

Processional Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major (one sharp). It features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the staves, with some lines starting with a measure of music. The score ends with a double bar line.


Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.


Kyrie

Pastor S 150



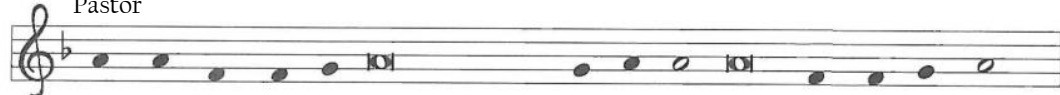
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly




Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor



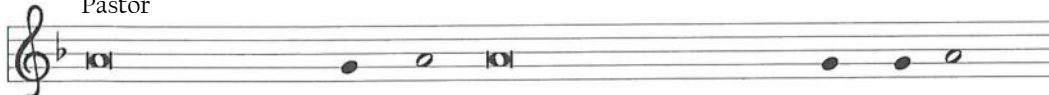
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly



Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor




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.

Assembly




Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor




For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly




Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

Assembly



A - men.

The Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray... O Lord God,

All: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(The assembly may be seated)

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Lector: By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

A reading from the book of Joshua.

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



Psalm 32

Lector: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

All: Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

Lector: While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**All: For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Lector: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**All: Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them. R**

Lector: You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. .

**All: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

Lector: Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

All: Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

Lector: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Lector: One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

A reading from the Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand if you are able)

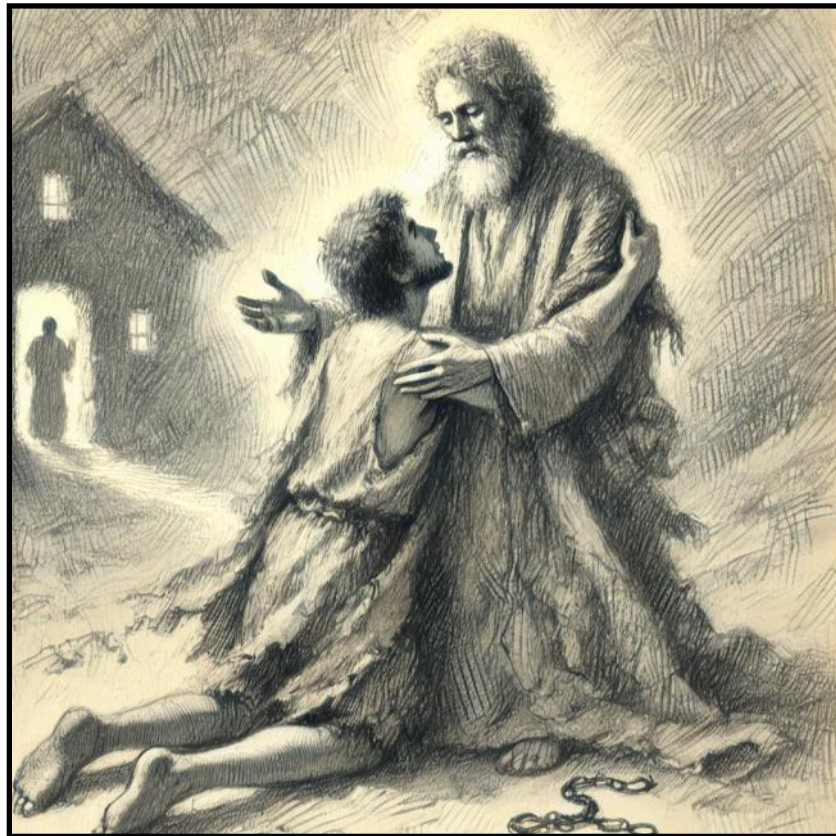
The Gospel Acclamation

S160b

Glo - ry and praise to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

I will arise and go to my fa - ther and say I have sinned against heaven and be - fore you.

The musical score is written in a single system with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment is divided into two systems. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment with treble and bass staves. The second system also has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment with treble and bass staves. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more rhythmic bass line in the left hand.



The Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Pastor: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’

Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

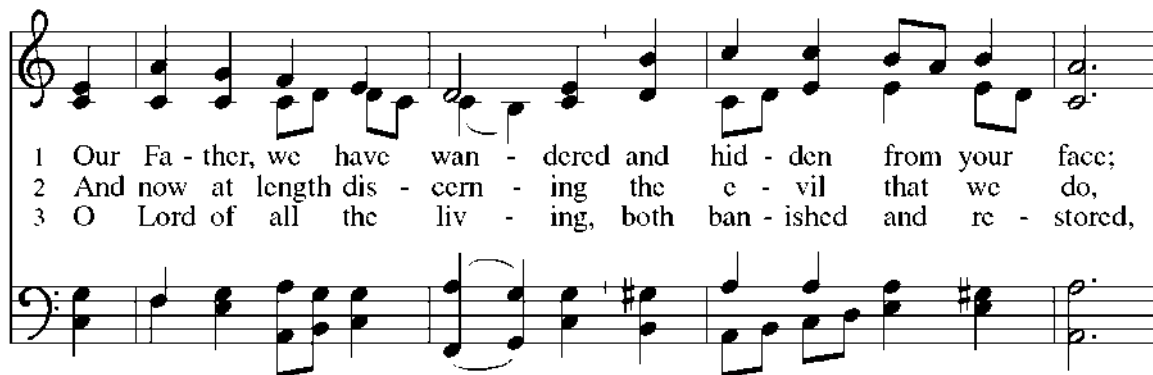
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly may be seated)

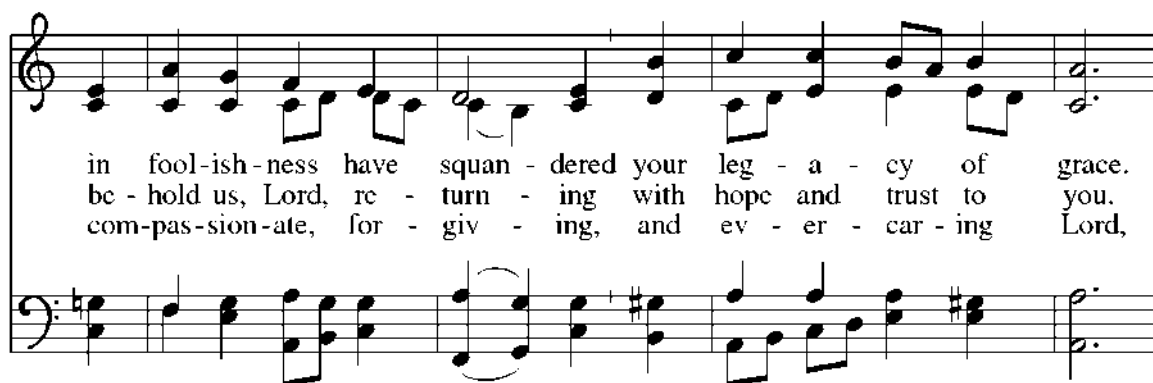
Children & Adult Sermons: Pastor Wilck

(Please stand if you are able)

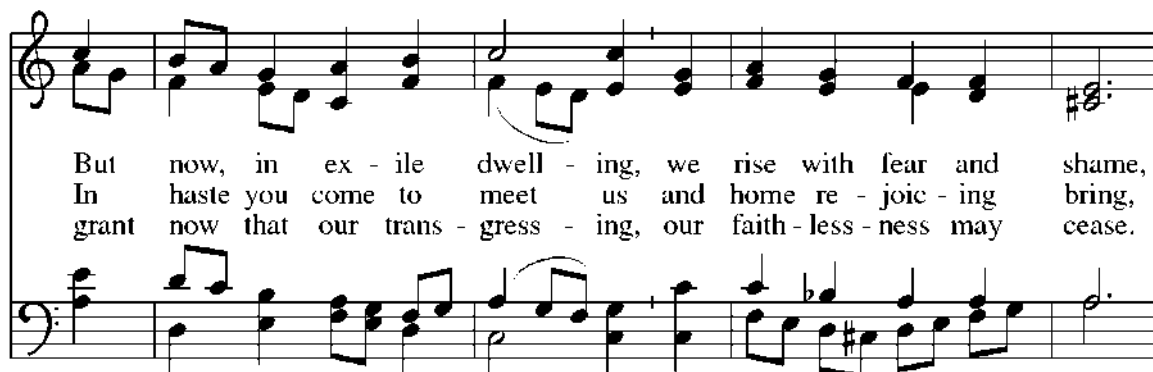
Hymn of the Day "Our Father, We Have Wandered"



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - ear - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

The Nicene Creed

All: 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.

The Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*) God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and prayer, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may provide for abundant life. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion especially: Barb Collins, Elaine DeVantier, Jack Erbeling, Jim Flick, Debbie Frey, Meredith Fries, Geraldine Haak, Bonnie Hartfiel, Janie Hopkins, Daryl Jarvis, Don Jermyn, Lynn Johnston, Barb King, Greg Lombard, Jean Lombard, John Macksamie, Linda Palmer, Jackie Potter, Marilies Renke, Edith Russell, Joe Scuderi, and Janine Westa. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of all who seek to bring people together under the banner of welcome that Jesus extends to all. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

All: Amen.

Peace

(the people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "peace be with you," or similar words.)

Pastor: Th peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

(Please be seated)

Collection of the Offering

(The offering is collected and brought forward during the singing of the offertory song)

Offertory Song "I Found the Treasure"

Lord to whom shall we go? You alone speak the words of life.
You alone on the earth or in heaven above
are my Saviour and my Lord. (refrain)

Jesus, Lord of my life, I can ask for nothing more
than to see and believe that my life lies in You,
in the kingdom of my Lord. (refrain)


REFRAIN

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The lyrics are: "I found the treasure in a field, that neither time nor death can steal. I will sell what I have, give all that I am, to hold this treasure as my own." The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* and *a tempo*. The first system shows the vocal line starting with "I found the" and the piano accompaniment. The second system continues with "treasure in a field, that neither time nor death can". The third system continues with "steal. I will sell what I have, give all that I". The fourth system concludes with "am, to hold this treasure as my own." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a more melodic right-hand part.

(Please stand if you are able)


The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: All: S 161




The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Pastor: All:




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor:




Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All:



It is right to give our thanks and praise.


Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,




heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Pastor: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name,
thy king - dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. And for - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion
but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.



Invitation to Communion

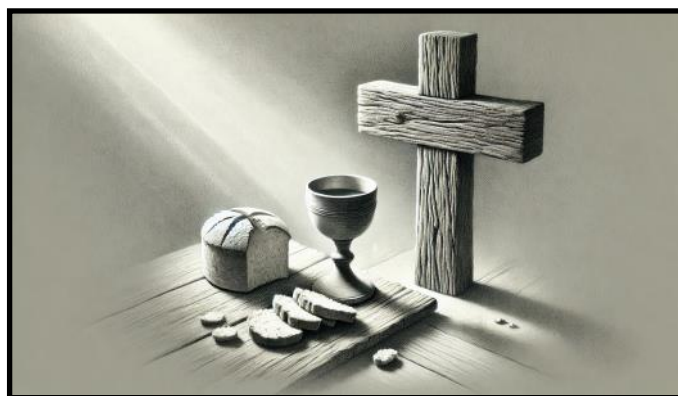
Pastor: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.



Communion Choir Anthem: "Now in this Banquet" by Marty Haugen

Refrain: Now in this banquet, Christ is our bread; Here shall all hungers be fed.
Bread that is broken, wine that is poured, Love is the sign of our Lord.

Verses: You who have touched us and graced us with love,
make us your people of goodness and light. (refrain)

Let our hearts burn with the fire of your love;
open our eyes to the glory of God. (refrain)

God who makes the blind to see, God who makes the lame to walk,
bring us dancing into day, lead your people in your way. (refrain)

Hope for the hopeless, light for the blind,
Strong is your name, Lord, "Gentle," and "Kind." (refrain)

Call us to be your light, call us to be your love,
make us your people again. (refrain)

Come, O Spirit! Renew our hearts!
We shall arise at be children of light. (refrain)

(Please stand if you are able)

Post Communion Blessing

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

All: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Blessing

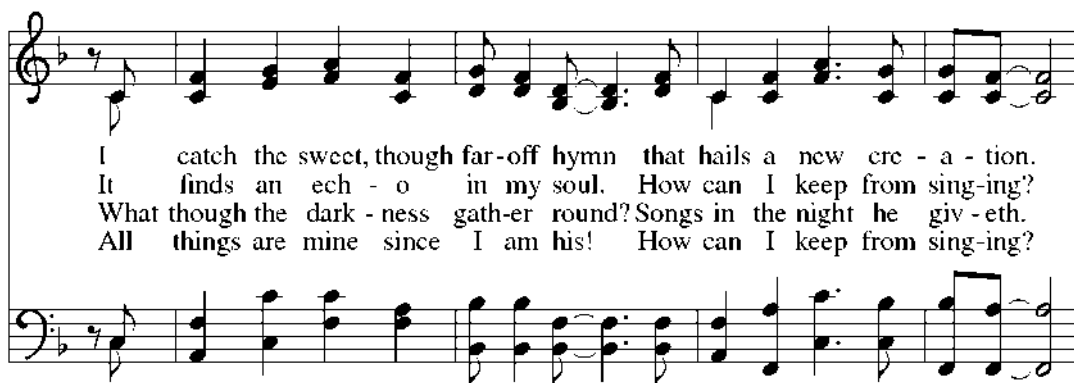
Pastor: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song, "How Can I Keep From Singing"

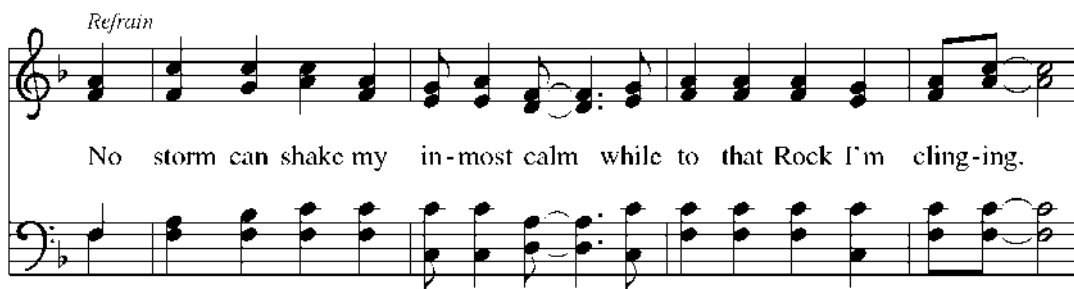


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing!



I catch the sweet, though far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
What though the dark - ness gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav - en and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

All: Amen.

Postlude