

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 2024
Worship Service
ELW Setting 4**

Announcements for February 4, 2024

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

***new names added this week (NJLC connection)*

Prayer Requests: Nancy Orndorff (NJLC member), Cathy Ciesinski (Toni Chancellor-Adams); Jay Merchant (Kate Freeman); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox); Evelyn Bowman (NJLC member); Anna Adler (Leah Onderdonk)

WELCA MEETING DATE CHANGE: NJ Women of the ELCA will NOT meet on February 3. This month the group will meet on **Saturday, February 10, at 10:00** in the church parlor.

FOOD PANTRY DONATION SUNDAY REMINDER: Food donations will be collected during the children's message this Sunday, February 4.

PRAYGROUND SUNDAY: Children begin worship with us and, following the children's message, will go as a group with Mrs. Barlow to the Prayground for Bible study activities. Prayground meets every month on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday.

THANKOFFERINGS: NJ WELCA will be collecting Thankofferings during the month of February. Offerings can be collected in any kind of container such as a jar or box. Donations may also be submitted by check. Please make checks payable to NJ WELCA with "Thankoffering" in the memo. Final collection will be Sunday, February 25. These offerings are used to support the ELCA's women's many ministries.

SOUPER SUNDAY POTLUCK, FEBRUARY 11: Let's herald the beginning of the Lenten season with a celebration of the perfect food for cold winter days: SOUP and CHILI. Potluck will be in the Fellowship Hall after Sunday service. Sign-up sheet for Souper Sunday is located in the fellowship hall.

NEW ADDRESS FOR NANCY ORNDORFF: Nancy's new address in Frederick, MD, is Somerford House Frederick, 2100 Whitties Drive, Room 503, Frederick, MD 21702.

SEASON OF LENT

The schedule for the season is below. Please let Pastor Carl know if you have one or more children who will be attending First Communion classes.

- Feb 14 (Wed): Ash Wednesday, 12 noon service
- Feb. 18: (Sun): First Communion Instruction, 11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 25: (Sun): "The Theology of the Cross" Adult Forum, 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 3 (Sun): First Communion Instruction, 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 10 (Sun): "The Theology of the Cross" Adult Forum, 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 17 (Sun): First Communion Instruction, 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 24 (Sun): Palm Sunday First Communion
- Mar. 24 (Sun): "The Theology of the Cross" Adult Forum 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 29 (Fri): Good Friday service at Bethel Lutheran Church 7:30 p.m.

SCRIPTURE/PRAYER READERS FOR FEBRUARY:

- February 4 – Sarah Stillman
- February 11 – Jim Freeman
- February 18 – Curtis Adams
- February 25 – Kate Freeman

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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Church Office

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officenjlc@gmail.com

Pastor Phillip Carl

(703) 955-6714

pastor.njlc@gmail.com

OUR MISSION: *Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.*

OUR VISION: *NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.*

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age-appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The altar flowers are given by Helen Keister to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband of 54 years, Mack Keister.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2024 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Sarah Stillman

PRELUDE

"Precious Lord"
by Thomas A. Dorsey

Mark A. Fletcher

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

"Oh Worship the King"
(see music on next page)

ELW 842

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.

Oh, Worship the King



1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
 5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,



Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;
 Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,



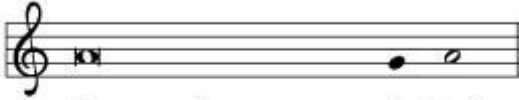
our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
 the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,



pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.
 with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.
 Music: HANOVER, William Croft, 1678–1727

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



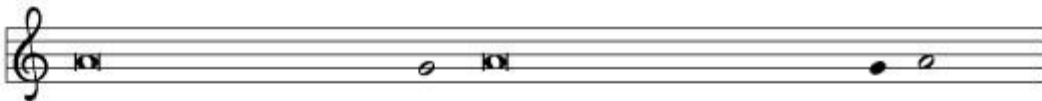
C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo- ple of God. Pow- er and rich- es and wis- dom and



strength, and hon- or and bless- ing and glo- ry are his.



This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God. Al- le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo- ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre- a- tion: Bless- ing and hon- or and glo- ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for- ev- er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be- gun his reign. Al - le - lu- ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Isaiah...

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of 1 Corinthians...

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:29-39

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Pastor Phil Carl

PRAYGROUND

Children are invited to The Prayground for Bible lessons, activities, crafts and prayers.

Sermon

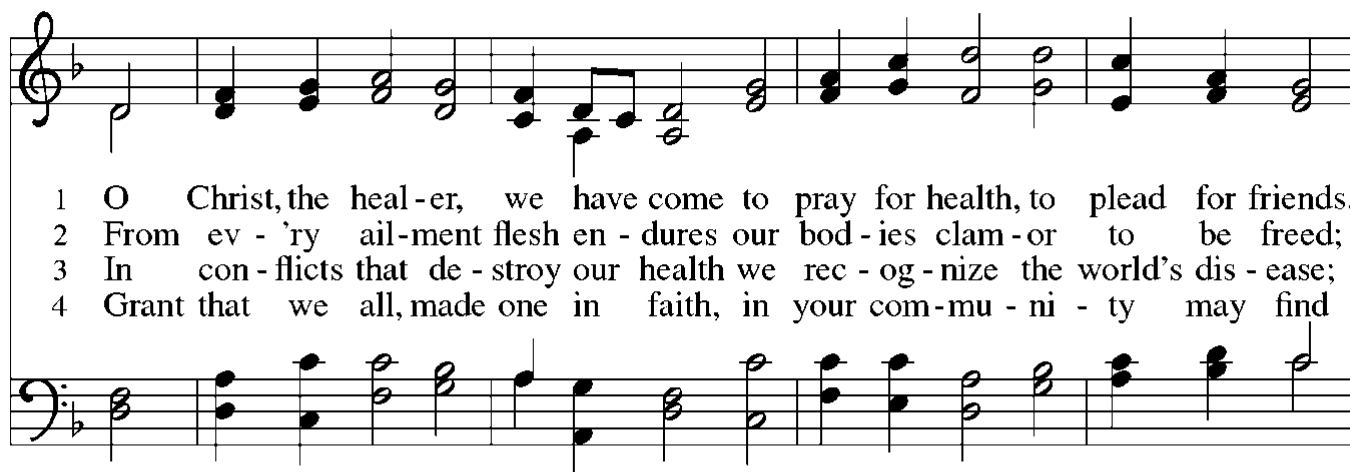
Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come"
(music on next page)

ELW 610

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2 From ev - `ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker. *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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APOSTLE'S CREED

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need especially Nancy Orndorff, Cathy Ciesinski, Jay Merchant, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Evelyn Bowman, and Anna Adler. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: God, Wonderful Counselor, guide us in the process of calling a new pastor for this congregation. Inform all our decisions, so that the outcome reflects your will for our future. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

“Exaltation”
by James Mansfield

Mark A. Fletcher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
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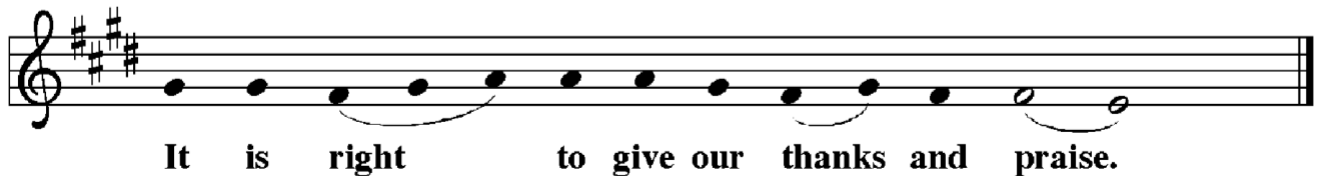
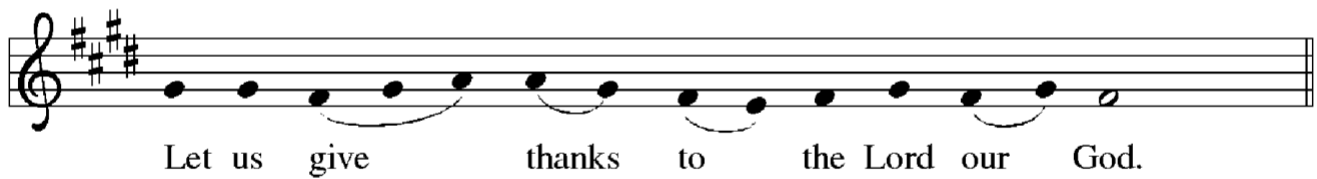
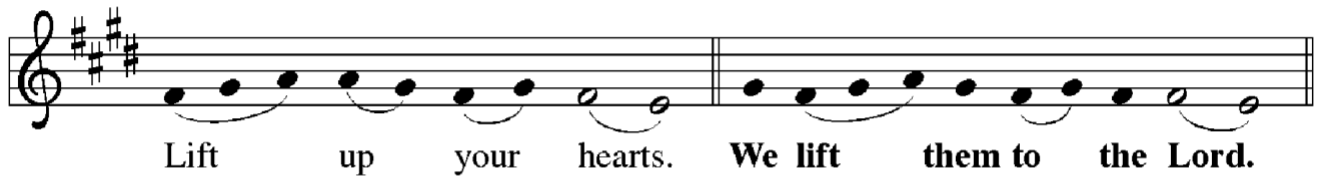
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

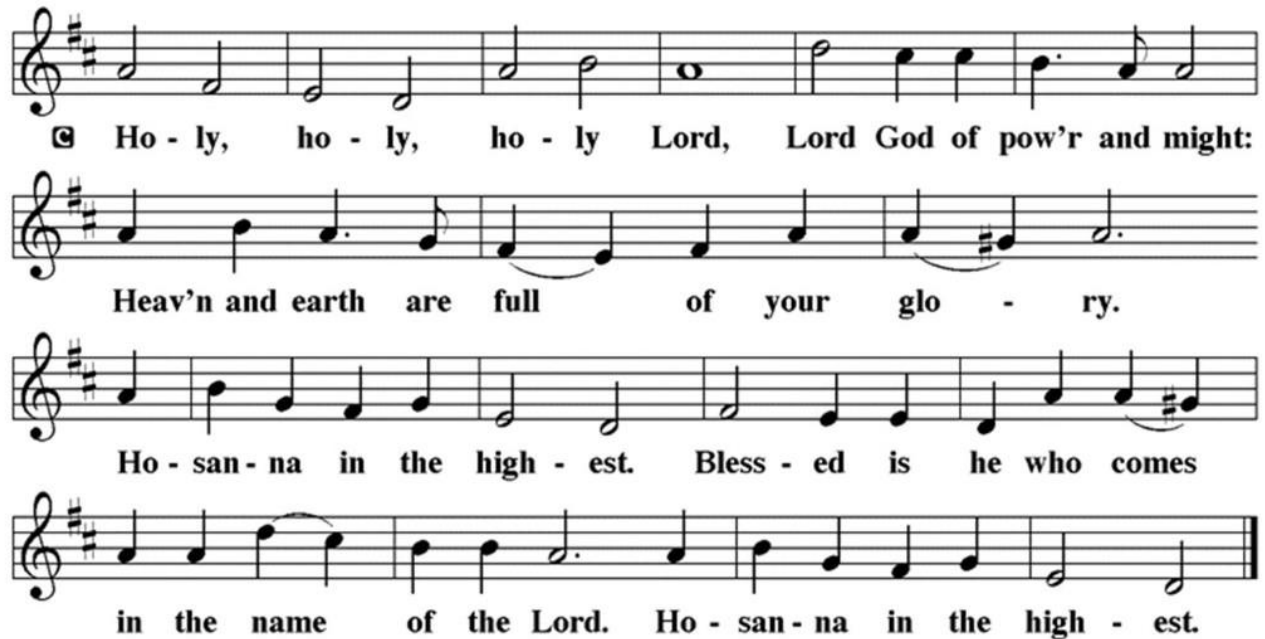
People: **Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give our thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on the earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

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 forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

People: 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

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

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



☩ Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo-ple: A light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo-ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING

blessing

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Arise, Your Light Has Come”
(see music on next page)

ELW 314

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Triumphant Finale”
By Thomas Bliss

Mark A. Fletcher

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve in the world.

Following today's Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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PSALM OF THE DAY: 147:1-11, 20c

(not read during today's service)

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to

honor God with praise! ²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel. ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names. ⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground. ⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God, ⁸who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains. ⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry. ¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, ¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}Hallelujah!