

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2024
Worship Service
ELW Setting 2**

Announcements for February 18, 2024

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

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

Prayer Requests: Michelle Bloom (NJLC member); 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)

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.

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION BEGINS TODAY: Children will meet with Pastor Carl for the first class after worship.

MANY THANKS to those of you who brought food dishes for the reception luncheon following the service for Mack Keister. We heard many compliments on the delicious meal and even though it was a large gathering, there was enough left to send home with Helen and her family, who were very appreciative. Thank you also for those who gave a cash donation to cover purchased items - it helped greatly. And, of course, a very special thank you to all the great help in setting up, serving, and cleanup. It was a big job and you so graciously jumped in. You are the best!

EASTER FLOWERS: All order forms must be turned in to the church office or submitted online (<http://tinyurl.com/NJLC-EasterFlowers>) by **noon on Monday, February 19**. Please include: your name, name of person(s) being remembered/honored, the number and kind of plants requested. Payments may be made through NJLC's online giving portal (<https://tinyurl.com/NJLC-Online>), placed in the weekly offering, or given/mailed to the church office. Be sure to indicate "Easter flowers" on the memo line of your check.

"MEET AND GREET" THE CALL CANDIDATE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.: Members can meet the call candidate and his wife as we share conversation and light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25: Members can observe the call candidate in his pastoral role as he conducts the morning worship service. Immediately following the service, a special congregation call meeting to gather information about the candidate will occur, followed with discussion and questions from the congregation. Lastly, the vote on the candidate will be taken by paper ballots. ELCA Metro DC Synod Bishop Leila Ortis will attend the call meeting.

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.

"THE THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS" Adult Forum: Pastor Carl will lead an examination of atonement theory – what we really mean when we use words like "savior" and "redeemer." It addresses the question, "Why did Jesus have to die?" The class will meet following worship on March 10, 17, and 24.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY: New members will be received Easter Sunday, March 31. If you are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Carl at Pastor.njlc@gmail.com or 703-955-6714.

SEASON OF LENT

- Feb. 18 (Sun) --- Blessing of 22 Quilts during service
- Feb. 18 (Sun) ---- First Communion Instruction, 11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 24 (Sat) ---- "Meet and Greet" the Call Candidate, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 25 (Sun) ---- Call Candidate conducts morning service, Special call meeting and Vote on the candidate.
- 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
"The Theology of the Cross"
- 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 18 – Curtis Adams
- February 25 – Kate Freeman

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

12942 Lutheran Church Road, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

www.njlclovettsville.org

Church Office

540-822-5576

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 Harold and Dottie Gladstone to the glory of God and in memory of those in our family who have gone before us.

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

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Curtis Adams

PRELUDE

"I want Jesus to Walk with Me"
A traditional spiritual

Mark A. Fletcher

We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

People: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

People: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”
(see music on next page)

ELW 326

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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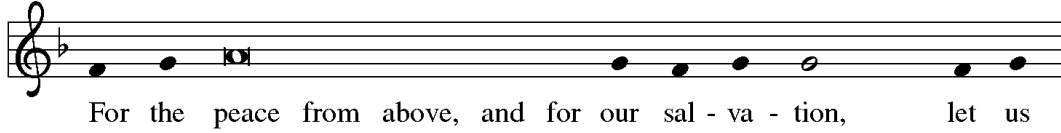
GREETING

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



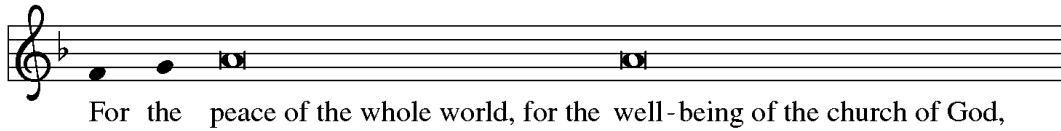
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**




For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



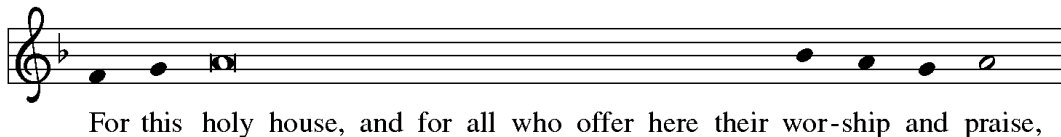
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



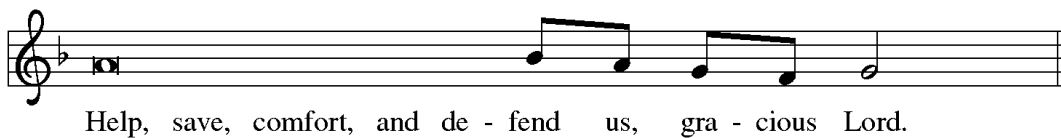
Lord, have mer - cy.



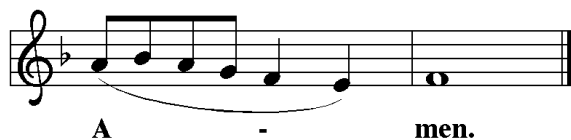
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



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



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



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-17

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

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:18-22

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

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:9-15

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

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

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Pastor Phil Carl

THE 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 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"
(music on next page)

ELW 517

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are arranged in three parts, with the first part having three verses. The music features a simple harmonic structure with chords and moving lines in both parts.

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling, especially Michelle Bloom, Nancy Orndorff, Cathy Ciesinski, Jay Merchant, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Evelyn Bowman, Anna Adler. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: God our beacon, you inspire your people. Guide this congregation as we continue the process of calling a new pastor. Inform all our decisions, so that the outcome reflects your will for our future. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”
A traditional Indian melody

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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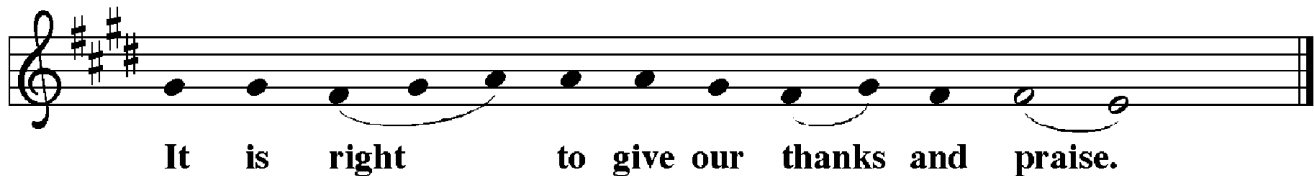
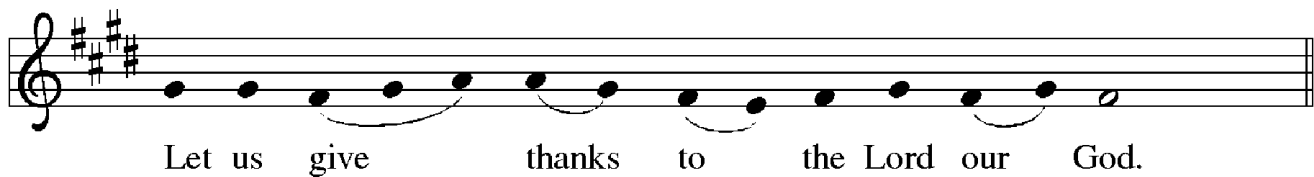
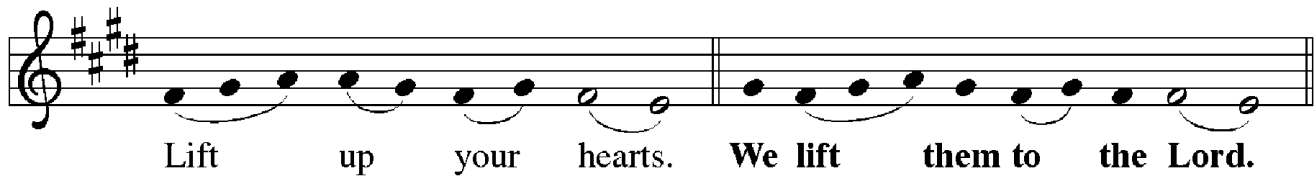
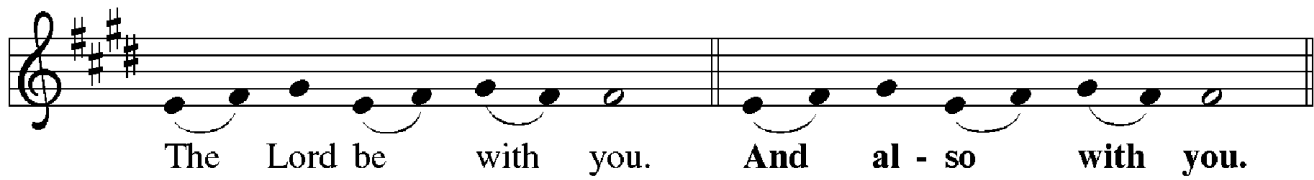
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

People: **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. 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, God of pow - er 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. 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 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

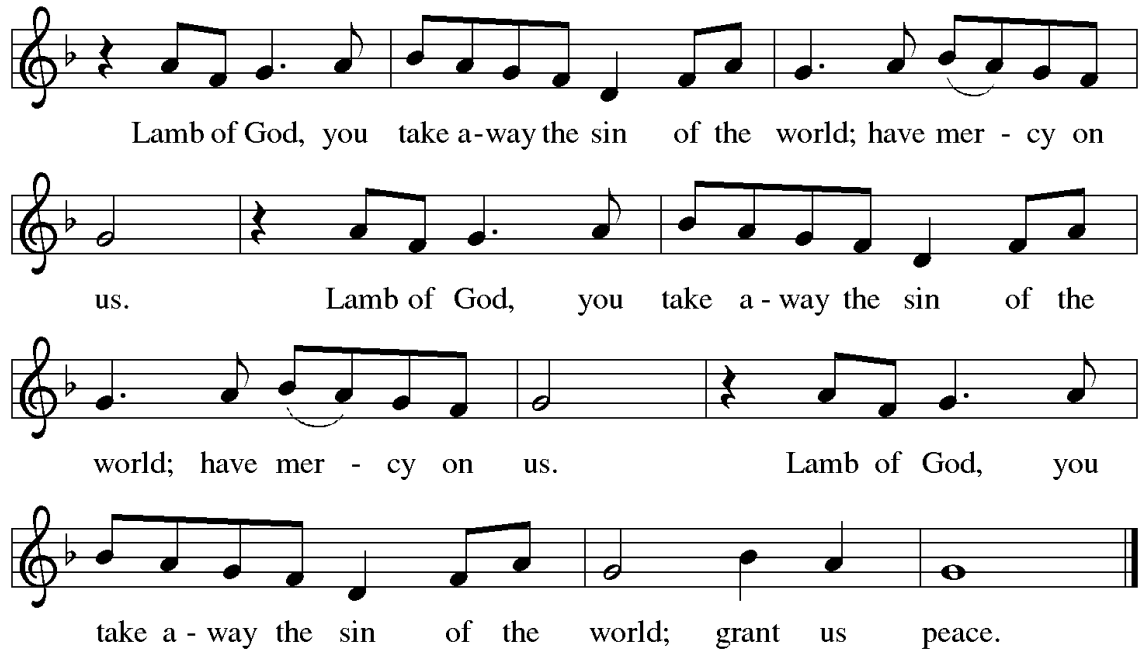
People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine 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



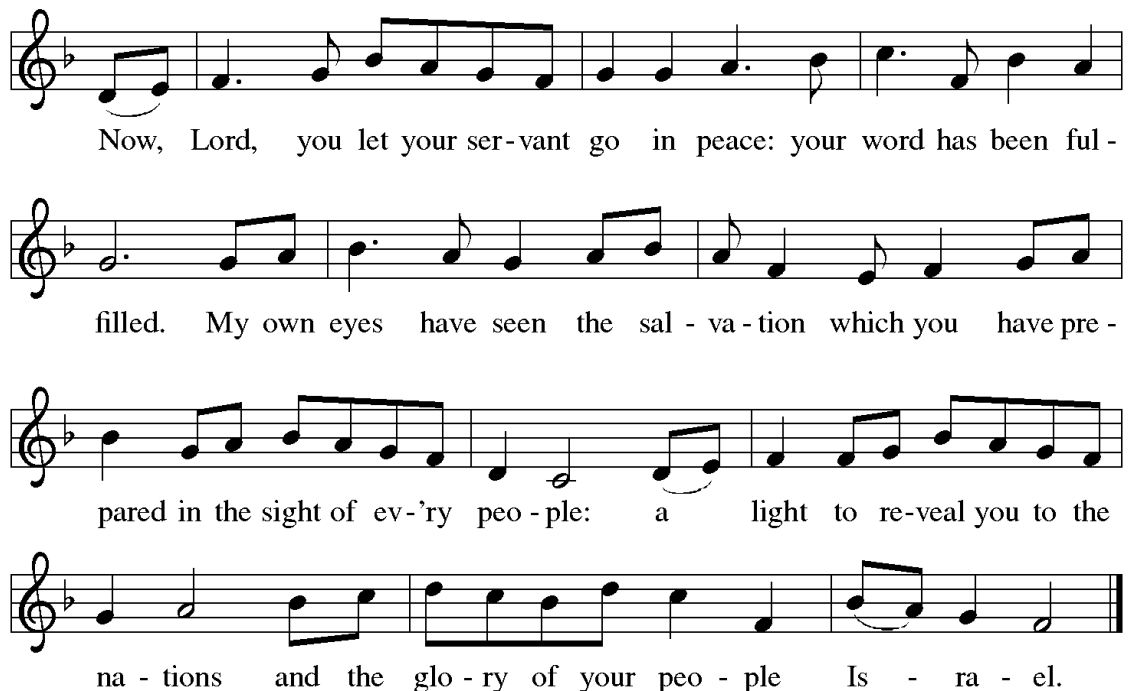
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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.



Now, Lord, 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: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

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

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days”
(see music on next page)

ELW 319

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Reflection”
By Mark Hayes

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.

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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PSALM OF THE DAY: 25:1-10

(not read during today's service)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. ⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. ⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. ⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way. ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way. ¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.