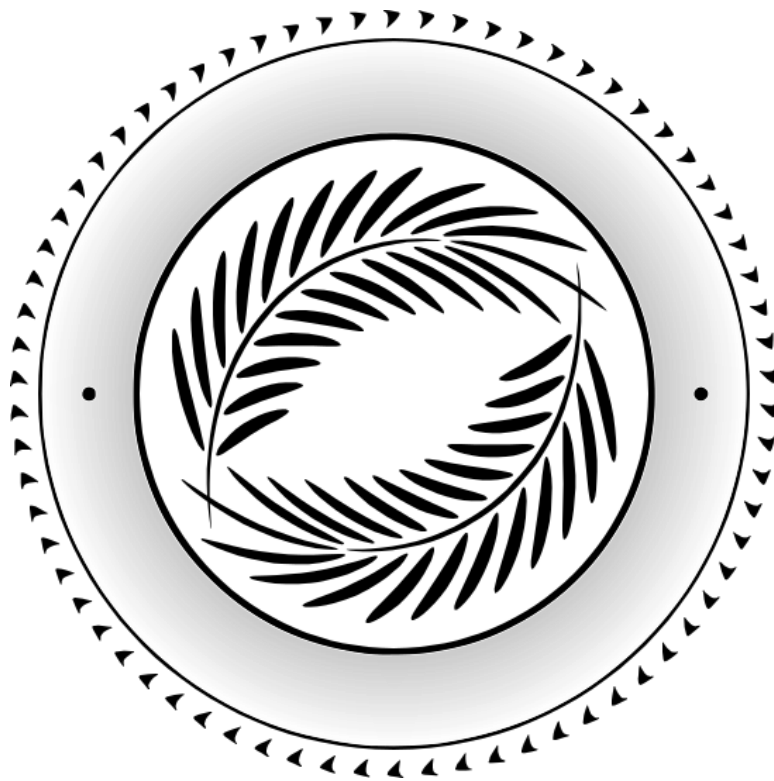


# **New Jerusalem Lutheran Church**



**First Sunday in Lent  
February 26, 2023  
Worship Service**



# New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

12942 Lutheran Church Road, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

www.njlclovettsville.org

Church Office  
Pastor

540-822-5576

officenjlc@gmail.com  
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## 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 are now optional for worship or other events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.
- Newcomers are always welcome here. If you would be comfortable to do so, please take a moment to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a blue pew card in the pew racks in front of you.
- 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 seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. If you should need or desire, we currently offer a staffed Sunday Morning Nursery on the far end of the Education Building. We also have a Cherub's Corner downstairs in the front corner of the Fellowship Hall with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers.
- We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit and in tangible form.



## ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are provided by the Schleipfer family and given for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2023 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

## The Devil Doesn't Wear Tights

No one believes in the existence of the devil these days, do they? Do you? Perhaps we can thank Hollywood and Halloween's marketing blitz for our casual if not incredulous approach to the devil's existence. Pointy horns, pitch forks, red costumes, and box office ticket sales continue to shape our culture's collective consciousness of the devil. Though red tights and long tails may be a frightening thought as you consider a costume for a Halloween party, they do nothing to communicate the true terror of an honest-to-God encounter with the devil's power. This Lent we are called to expunge the fantastical images of the devil from our minds and think seriously about the real presence of evil in our world. We know firsthand about the sin that caused, causes, and will cause suffering to us, our loved ones, our neighbors, our global communities, and creation itself. Sin is real; suffering is real; evil is real; indeed, the devil is real. This oppressive, tangible reality is as real as the air we breathe—felt but not always seen. Greed, envy, rage, hatred, war, discrimination, and apathy are just some of the ways the devil's forces wreak havoc upon us. These forces have one goal and one goal only: to turn us away from the will of God. Matthew's gospel reorients us to the truth of the devil's power, and calls us to name Satan's presence in the world. In the wilderness Jesus encounters an evil as real as its opposite, resurrection. The great tempter seeks to undermine Jesus' mission before he even begins; testimony that evil has much to fear of our Jesus! Nonetheless, Jesus will not be dissuaded. "Away with you, Satan!" proclaims the redeemer of the cosmos. Thus, the Lenten journey begins—a journey that takes us to the cross, where the devil is named and crushed underfoot.

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

"Prelude on 'Aus der Tiefe'"  
(by: C.S. Lang)

Mark A. Fletcher

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship by observing silence through the music.*

### WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

### GREETING & PASSING OF PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Having been greeted in love and peace by our Triune Godhead, I invite us to greet one another in like manner as we gather this day.

*All are invited to share a sign and greeting of God's peace with one another.*

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness... Most merciful God,

People: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☐ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN** "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"  
(verses 1, 2, 4)

ELW 319

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. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.  
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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: **Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

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## THE WORD

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### FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

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

<sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." <sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

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

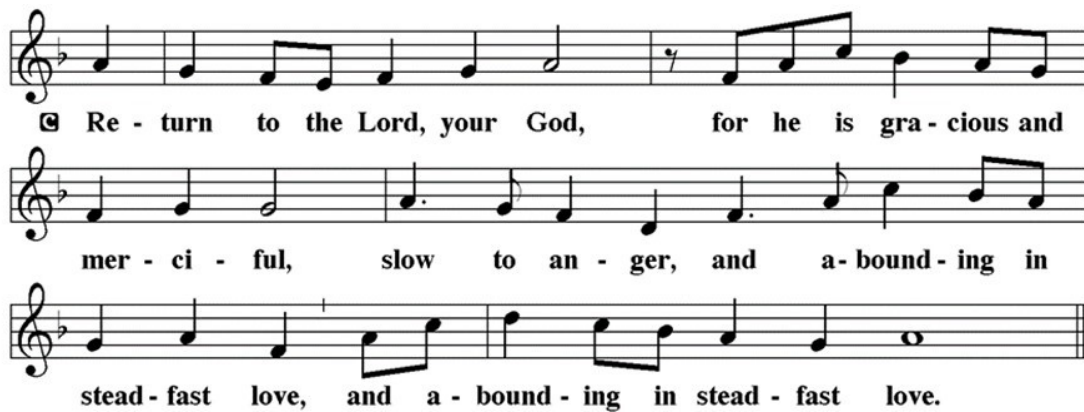
<sup>12</sup>Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

## LENTEN VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Phil Carl

## SERMON

Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"  
(music on next page)

ELW 325

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation... You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, especially worship greeters, coffee hour hosts, and nursery attendants. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: Gracious God, as we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so that the outcome reflects your will for our future. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Reader: You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**People: Amen.**

Please be seated.

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## MEAL

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### OFFERTORY

Mark A. Fletcher

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: God of good gifts,



**People:** receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Pastor:** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on 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'r and might:  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
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:** Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**People:** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: 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 and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

## HOLY 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 provided along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front. Please maintain safe distances as you come forward and return to your seats.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

Mark A. Fletcher

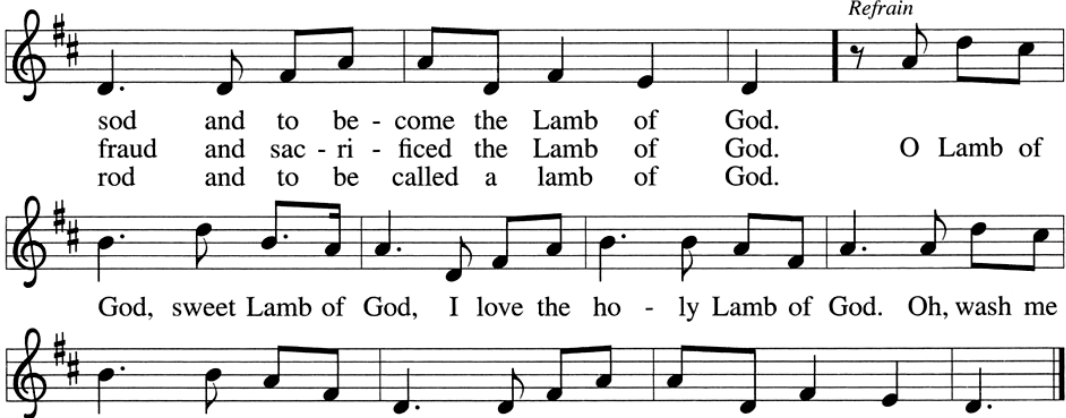
### "Lamb of God" (verse 1)

ELW 336

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

*Refrain*



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.  
 God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me  
 in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958  
 Music: Twila Paris

Text and music © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

YOUR ONLY SON  
 LMD

Please stand as you are able.

### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

People: **Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Let us pray... Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

People: **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

Pastor: God, the giver of love, Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

People: **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"  
*(music on next page)*

ELW 547

### DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

Mark A. Fletcher

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1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,  
the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—  
The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed  
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,  
the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.  
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now  
reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.  
Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us  
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing  
to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.  
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
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## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 32

*(not read during today's service)*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup>Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup>While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah <sup>6</sup>Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. <sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah <sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. <sup>9</sup>Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. <sup>10</sup>Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. <sup>11</sup>Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.