

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024
Worship Service
ELW Setting 2**

Announcements for March 10, 2024

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

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

Prayer Requests: ****Matt Weis** (Jen Muhlenberg); Nancy Orndorff (NJLC member); Cathy Ciesinski (Toni Chancellor-Adams); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox); Evelyn Bowman (NJLC member); Anna Adler (Leah Onderdonk);

“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, March 17, and March 24.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: We are invited to join with Zion/Bethel Lutheran Churches for Good Friday service on March 29 at 7:30 p.m. The service will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 40723 Tankerville Road, Lovettsville, Virginia.

EASTER FLOWERED CROSS: The flowered cross symbolizes the Resurrection and new life and we will once again this Easter be including a flowered cross in our Easter festival celebration. Bring your fresh-cut flowers (stems no longer than 4-6”), to church at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday, March 31. We will decorate the cross with the flowers and then process into the sanctuary for worship.

THE REV. JOSHUA A. WULLENWEBER with a unanimous congregational vote on February 25 will become the new pastor for NJLC. His service will begin on April 8, 2024, with April 14 being his first Sunday service. Thanks to the call committee members for their diligent work in interviewing call candidates and recommending Pastor Josh to the council for approval.

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

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. 17 (Sun): “The Theology of the Cross” Adult Forum, 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

SCRIPTURE/PRAYER READERS FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH:

March 10 – Bill George

March 17 – Matt Jorgenson

March 24 (Palm/Passion Sunday) – AJ Jorgenson

March 31 (Easter Sunday) – Toni Chancellor-Adams

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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Church Office

540-822-5576

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Pastor Phillip Carl

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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!



As the season of Lent is a time of prayer and quiet reflection, there will be no flowers on the altar throughout the Lenten Season.

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

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Bill George

PRELUDE

"In Humble Adoration"
By W.A. Mozart

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

“Give to Our God Immortal Praise!”
(see music on next page)

ELW 848

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

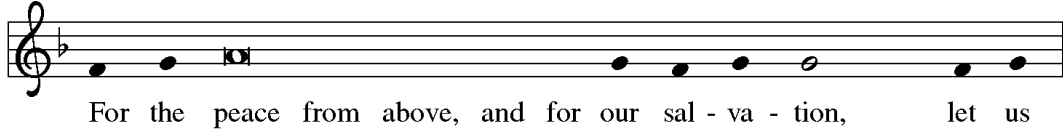
GREETING

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.

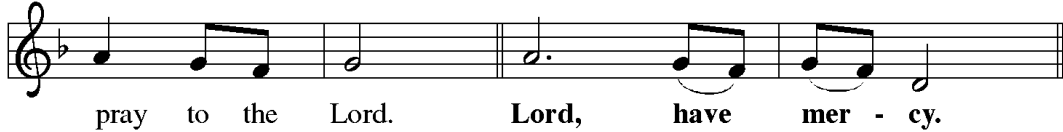
Kyrie



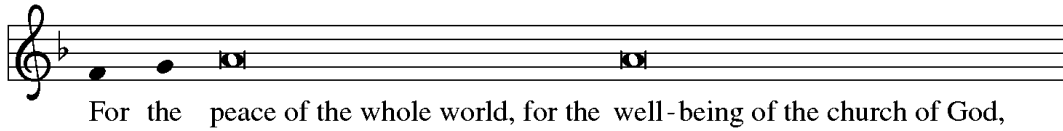
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



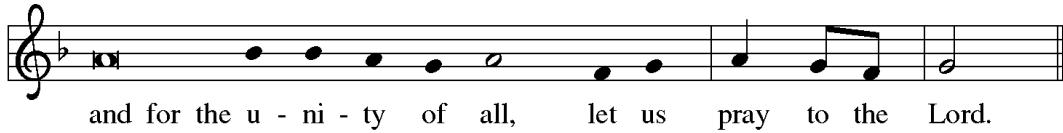
For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



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



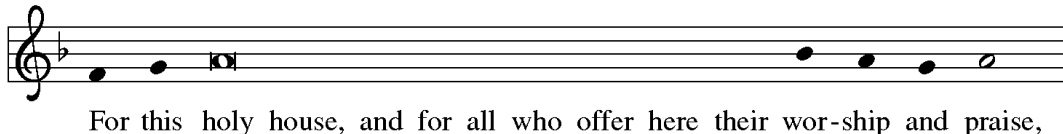
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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

Numbers 21:4-9

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

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

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

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive

together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

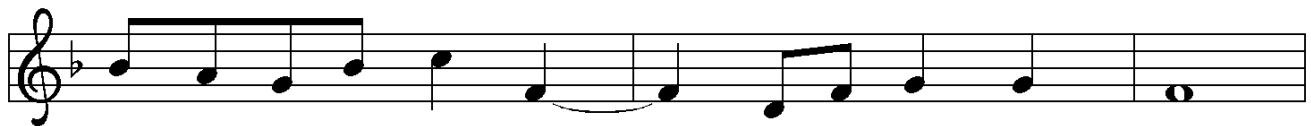
Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

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

John 3:14-21

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John, the third chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: [Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

“Lift High the Cross”
(music on next page)

ELW 660

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947
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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: 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. Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war, especially those nearing starvation in Gaza. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers. Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love, especially Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, renewers of society, whom we commemorate today. Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. We pray for all in need of healing, especially Matt Weis, Nancy Orndorff, Cathy Ciesinski, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Evelyn Bowman, and Anna Adler. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Providing God. We return our gratitude that your spirit has led us to call a new pastor for our congregation. Guide us now as we prepare for a mutual ministry to our congregation and community. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. 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

“For You So Loved Me”
By J.H. McNaughton

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
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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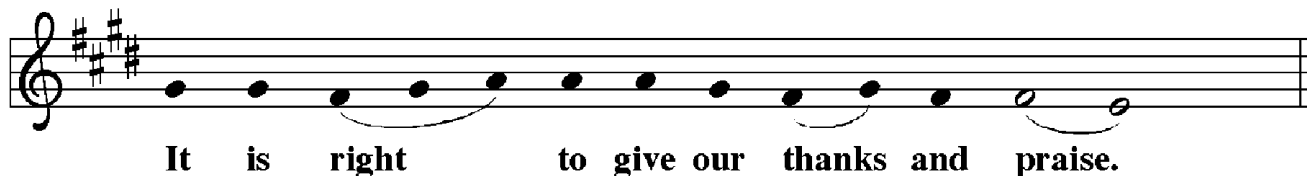
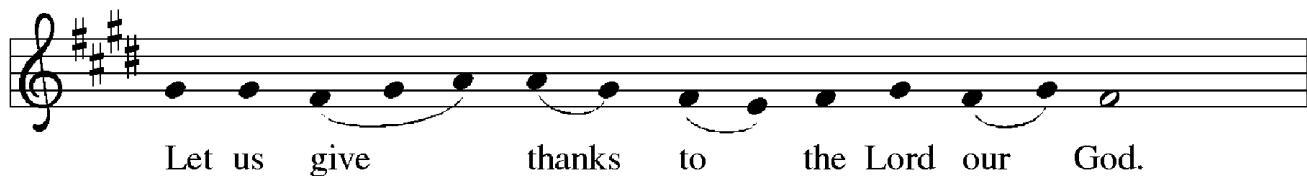
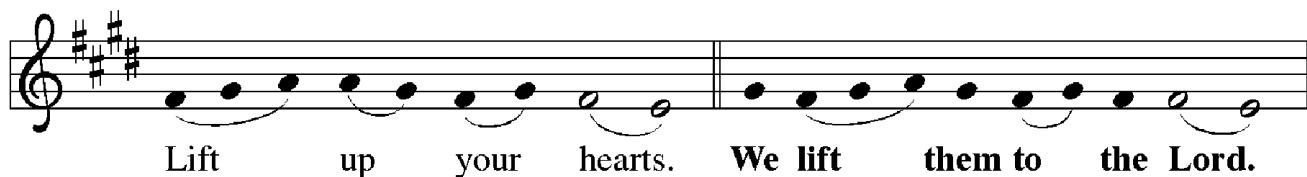
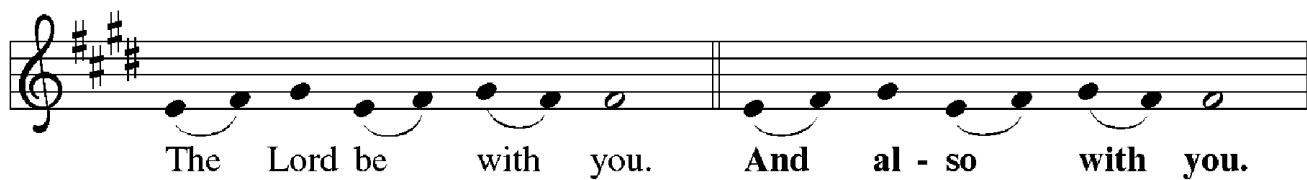
Please stand as you are able.

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 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:

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:

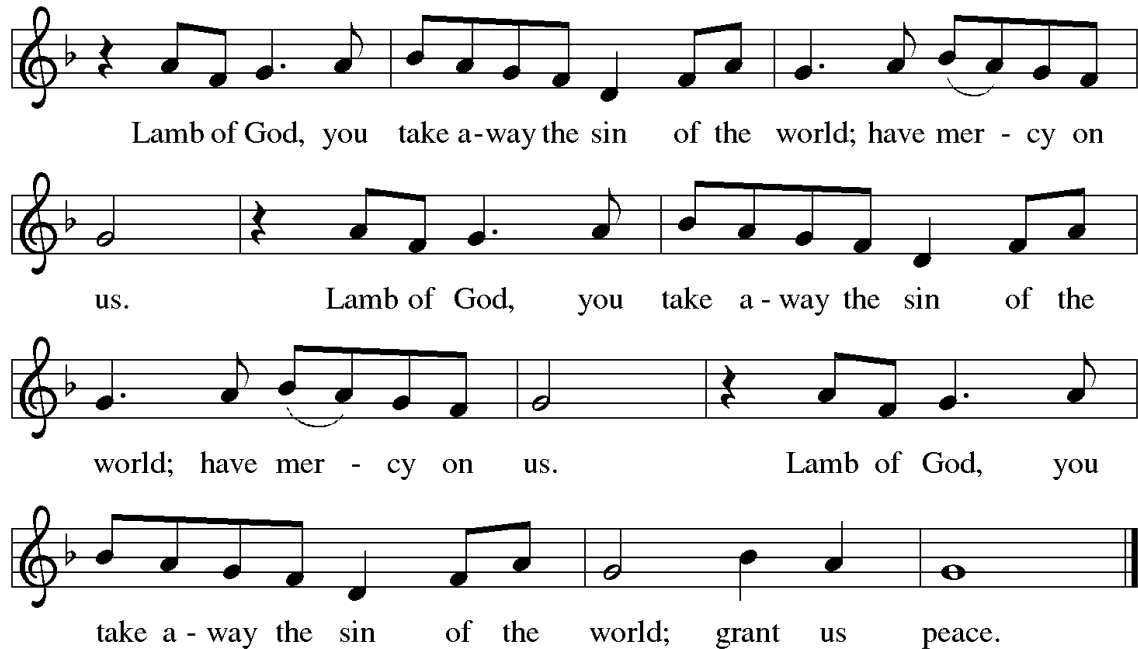
People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine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



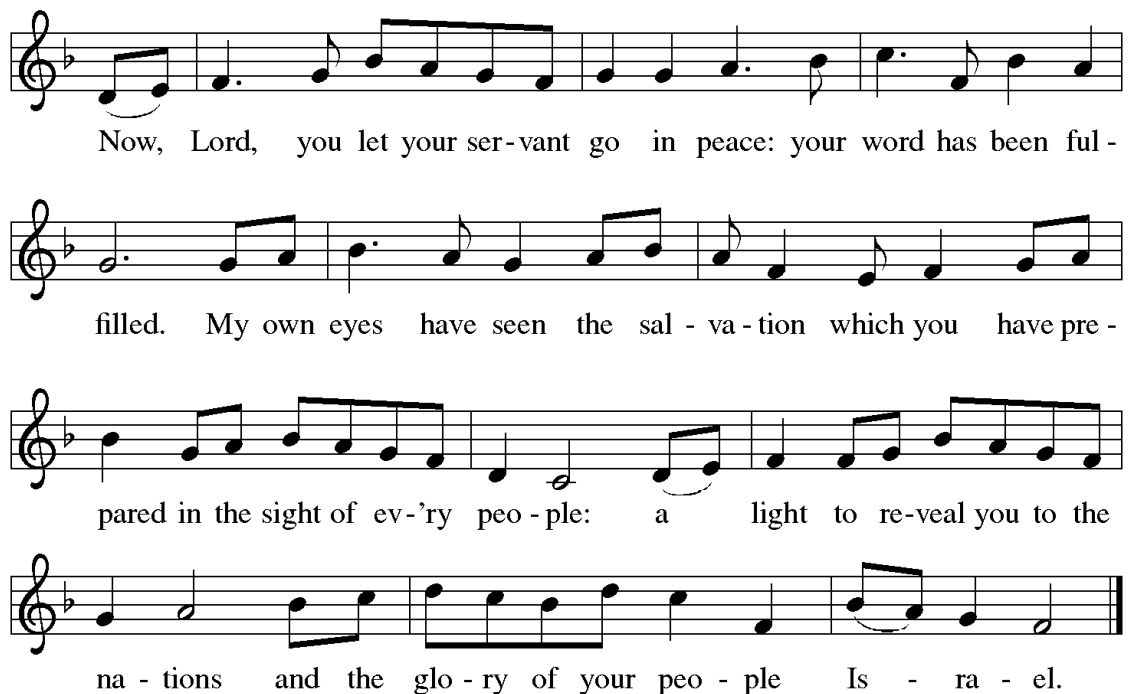
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

“Restore in Us, O God”
(see music on next page)

ELW 328

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Psalm of Glory”
By Lani Smith

Mark A. Fletcher

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

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

Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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PSALM OF THE DAY 107:1-3,17-22

(not read during today's service)

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever. ²Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, ³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. ¹⁷Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted. ¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door. ¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress. ²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave. ²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works on all people. ²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.