



**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 12, 2023**

**We hope you feel welcome here.**

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

**We hope you can participate fully in worship.**

Everything needed to participate in today's worship is found in this bulletin. The hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) located under the seat in front of you. Worshipers are invited to stand as you are able at the places marked \* and to respond when indicated with bold type. We gently remind you to silence all electronic devices.

Our youngest worshipers and their parents may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the sanctuary or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags are available in the narthex and children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Assisted hearing devices and complete-service, large-print bulletins are available from an usher. The blue chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations. Ushers can remove chairs to place a wheelchair.

**We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.** At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

**We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.**

Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

**We hope you know we pray for you.**

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors; prayer requests made before the service begins will be included in the Prayers of the People.

**+ GATHERING +**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MINISTRY MOMENT**

**Kathy Roberts  
Lutheran Hills Property Steward**

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

# \*ENTRANCE HYMN

## Canticle of the Turning

ELW#723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## \*GREETING

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

**C: And also with you.**

## \*KYRIE



Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad;      ten pie - dad      de no -  
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us;      O . . . Lord,      have . . .



so - tros.      Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -  
mer - cy.      Lord, . . have mer - cy on



dad;      ten pie - dad      de no - so - tros.  
us;      O . . . Lord,      have . . mer - cy.



*Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie - dad;      ten pie - dad      de no -*  
*Christ, . . have mer - cy on us;      O . . . Christ,      have . .*



*so - tros.      Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie -*  
*mer - cy.      Christ, . . have mer - cy on*



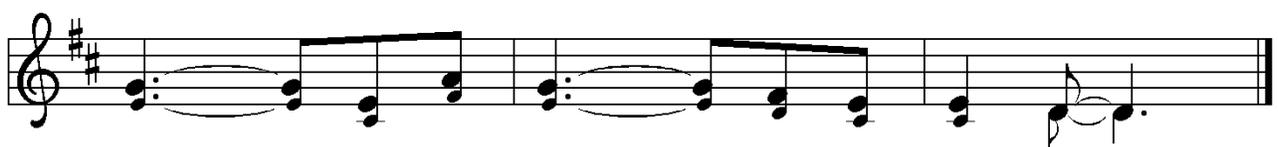
*dad;      ten pie - dad      de no - so - tros.*  
*us;      O . . . Christ,      have . . mer - cy.*



*Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad;      ten pie - dad      de no -*  
*Lord, . . have mer - cy on us;      O . . . Lord,      have . . .*



*so - tros.      Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -*  
*mer - cy.      Lord, . . have mer - cy on*



*dad;      ten pie - dad      de no - so - tros.*  
*us;      O . . . Lord,      have . . mer - cy.*

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE



*¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!*  
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



*¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!*  
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



*Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.*  
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.



*Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.*  
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## +WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-7,12

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication  
and all the kings your glory,

and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of  
the LORD

and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

You shall no more be termed Forsaken,

and your land shall no more be termed  
Desolate,

but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her  
and your land Married,

for the LORD delights in you,

and your land shall be married.

For as a young man marries a young woman,  
so shall your builder marry you,

and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,  
so shall your God rejoice over you.  
Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the LORD,  
take no rest,  
and give God no rest  
until the Lord establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.  
They shall be called, "The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD,"  
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken."

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# PSALM 146



<sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

**<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup>Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

**<sup>4</sup>When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

**and in that day | their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

**<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

**who keeps promis- | es forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the cap- | tive free.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;**

**the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;**

**the LORD | loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares | for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

**<sup>10</sup>The LORD shall | reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. |  
Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING

Revelation 12:1-6, 13-17

A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns and seven diadems on his heads. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to deliver a child, so that he might devour her child as soon as it was born. And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a scepter of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so that there she can be

nourished for one thousand two hundred sixty days.

So when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had delivered the male child. But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle, so that she could fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to her place where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. Then from his mouth the serpent poured water like a river after the woman, to sweep her away with the flood. But the earth came to the help of the woman; it opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. Then the dragon was angry with the woman and went off to wage war on the rest of her children, those who keep the commandments of God and hold the testimony of Jesus.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*A - le - lu - ya,                    a - le - lu - ya,                    a - le - lu - ya!*  
 Al - le - lu - ia,                    al - le - lu - ia,                    al - le - lu - ia!

*A - le - lu - ya,                    a - le - lu - ya,                    a - le - lu - ya!*  
 Al - le - lu - ia,                    al - le - lu - ia,                    al - le - lu - ia!

*A - le - lu - ya,                    a - le - lu - ya,*  
 Al - le - lu - ia,                    al - le - lu - ia,

*a - le - lu - ya!                    A - le - lu - ya!*  
 al - le - lu - ia!                    Al - le - lu - ia!

## \*HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:7-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter.

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

As [John's disciples went away with a report about Jesus's work], Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then,

did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and violent people take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John came, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. Let anyone with ears listen!

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton

and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord!

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

SERMON

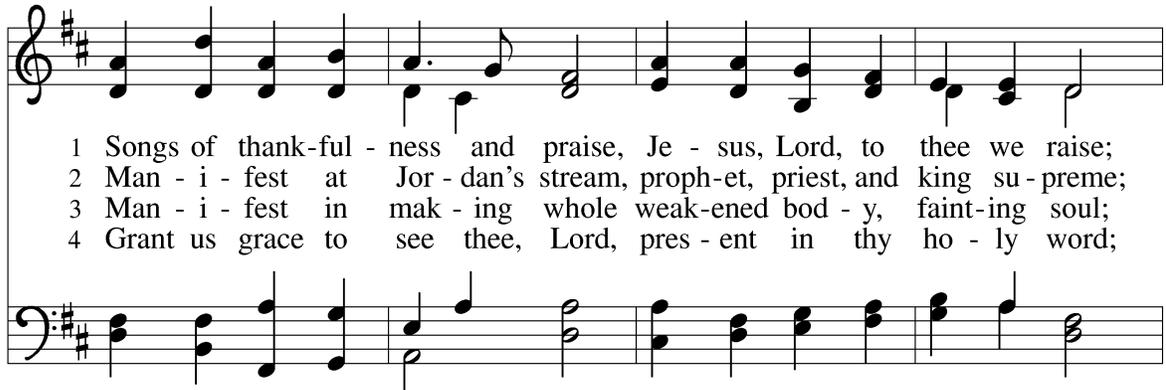
Pr. Adrienne Meier

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

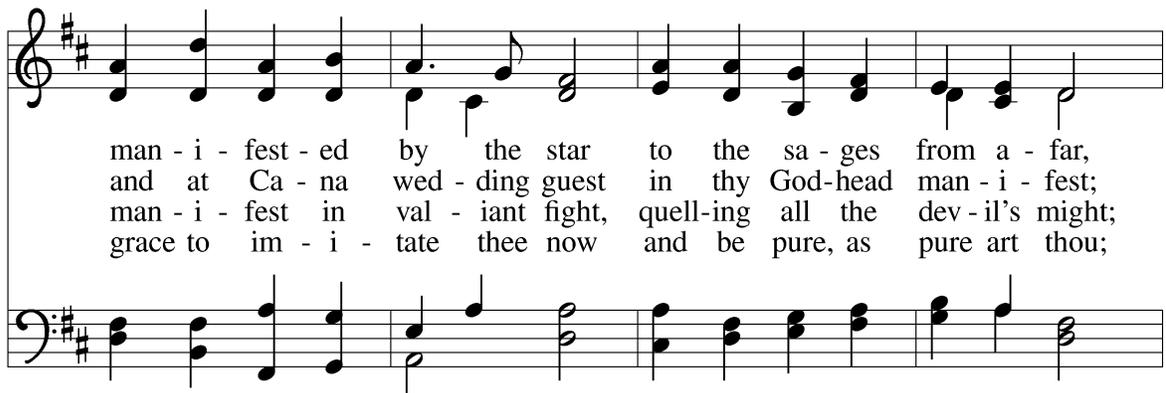
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW#310

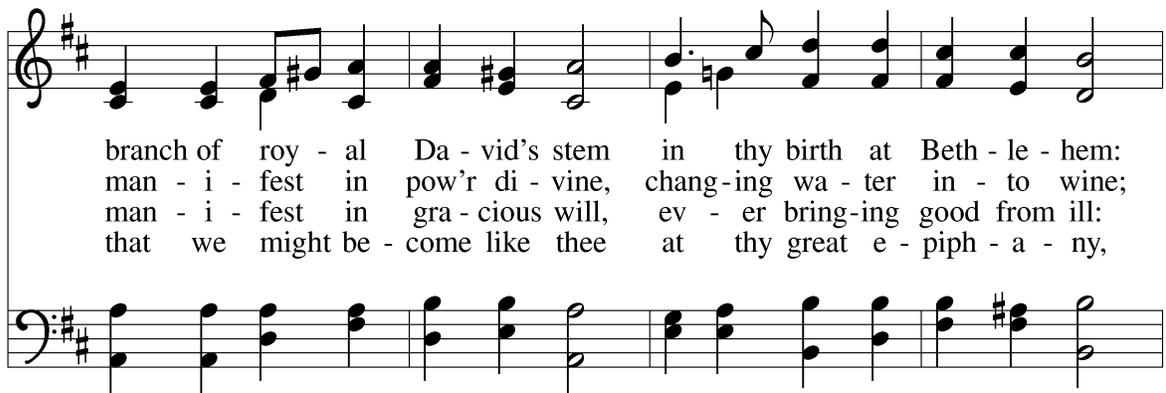
## Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill;  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - pip - ha - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.**

**C: 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 in 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 THE CHURCH

A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. We give you thanks and pray for clergy of color and the health of their ministries, especially those whose race or ethnicity is different from the communities they serve. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: The earth trembles, and we are afraid. We pray for the people of Turkey and Syria who grieve death and destruction following a major earthquake, and for all relief and recovery efforts. We pray also for the health of the air and atmosphere after the release of toxic chemicals from a train derailed in Ohio. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In Chichipate, bring reconciliation between indigenous people and their government that all people who call Guatemala home may dwell in safety. As our weeklong Virtual Visit draws to a close, we give you thanks for shared blessings between our communities. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Nurture all in need especially Elif, Jan, Caretta, Roger, Paula, Audrey, Deborah, Mike, Bob, Andrew, Doug, Yvonne, Jan, Jeff, Evelyn, Margrethe, Helen, Jacky and for our refugee family's relatives affected by the earthquake. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for people in our community and our nation who are struggling with rising food costs. Bless the food we gather this week, and throughout the year. Strengthen our food supply systems that good, healthy, well-produced food, bless not just those who consuming it, but every person involved in its production. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.  
**C: Amen.**

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.*

## OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.*

*Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the door or you can also give on our website ([stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)). St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners.*

8:30 a.m. only  
ORGAN OFFERTORY

Matt Benkert

11 a.m. only  
CHOIR ANTHEM  
Look at the World  
Adult Choir and Children's Choir

John Rutter

\*OFFERTORY HYMN  
Lift Every Voice and Sing

ELW#841  
*verse 2*

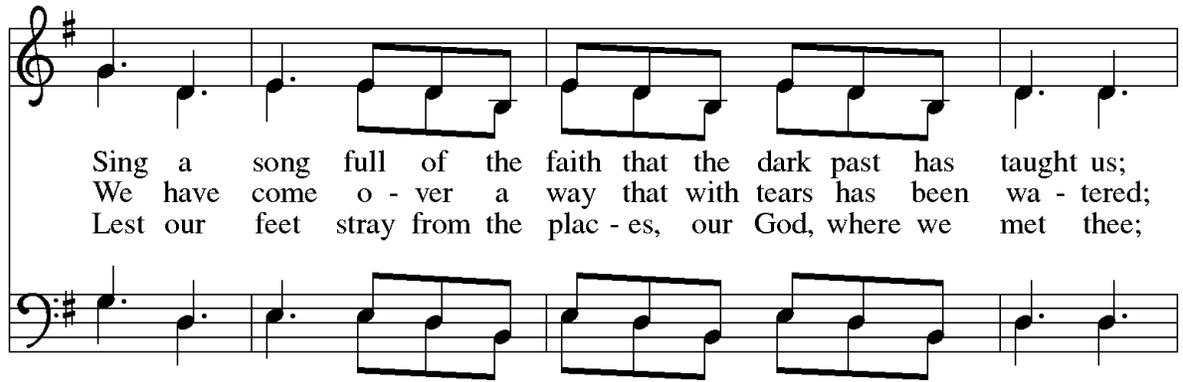
# Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

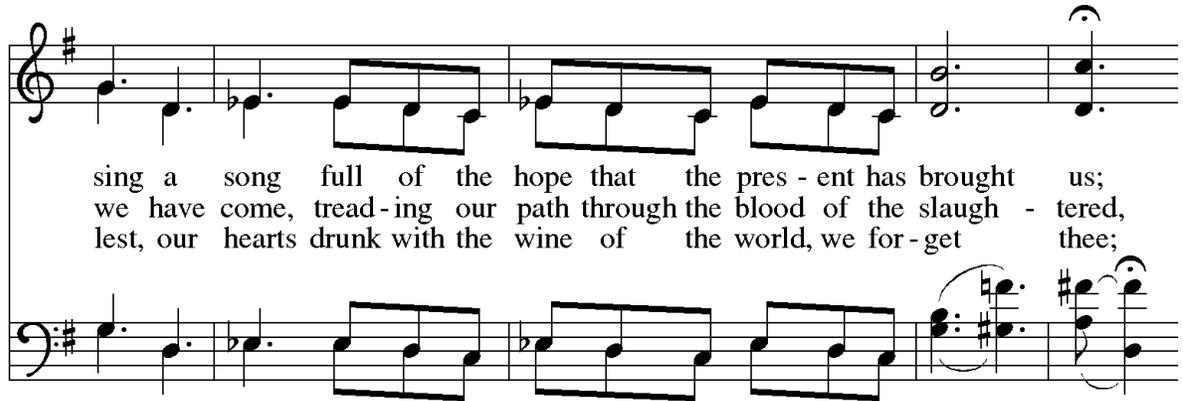
ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.  
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,  
yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet  
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last  
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938  
Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

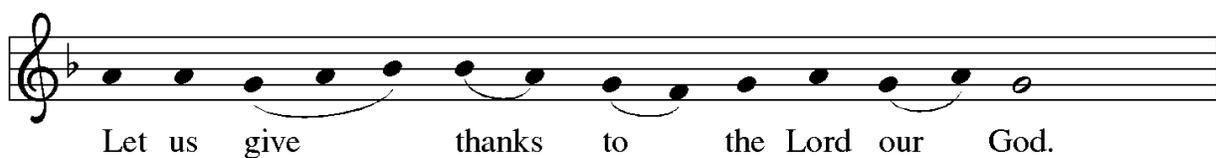
## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

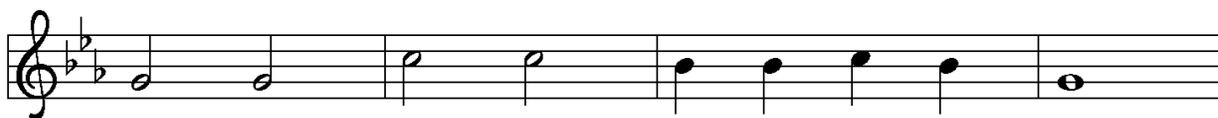
**C: Amen.**

**+ MEAL +**

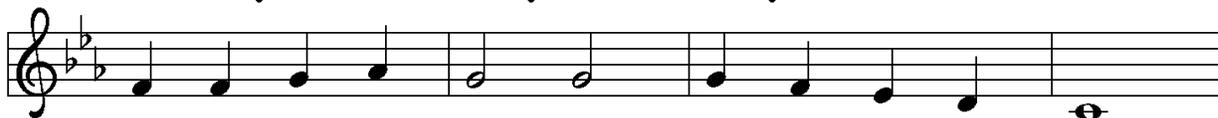
## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: 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; 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 earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el  
earth. . . . . Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el  
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -  
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth. . . . .



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.  
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

## \*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all

glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Q'eqchi' is provided on the next page.*

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

At qayuwa' wankat sa' chooxa  
Usil aatinab'il ta laa k'ab'a  
Chi chalq ta laa nimajwal awabejihom  
Chi uxq ta li nakawaj arin sa' ruuchich'och' jo'  
sa' chooxa  
Chak'e ta qe hoom li qawa chi rajlal kutan  
Chakuy chasach ta li qamaak  
Jo' laa'o xqakuy xmaak li ani xmaako' chi qu  
Ut mohaakanab' ta chi t'ane'k sa' li aaleek  
Chohaakolaq b'an chi ru li maa'us  
Jo'kan taxak

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

*We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

# ANGUS DEI



*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so - tros,                      ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.*  
*have . . mer-cy up - on us,                      have . . mer-cy up - on us.*



*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so - tros,                      ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.*  
*have . . mer-cy up - on us,                      have . . mer-cy up - on us.*



*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*da - nos tu paz,                      da - nos tu paz.*  
*grant us your peace,                      grant us your peace.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

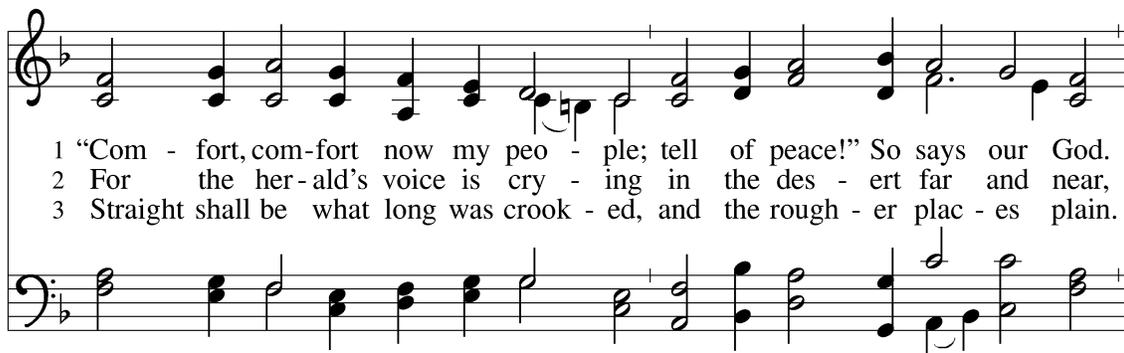
Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW#256

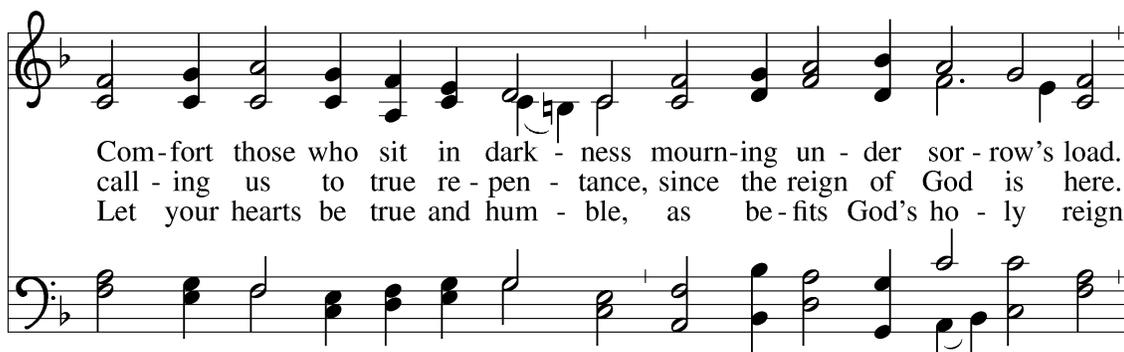
There's a Voice in the Wilderness

ELW#255

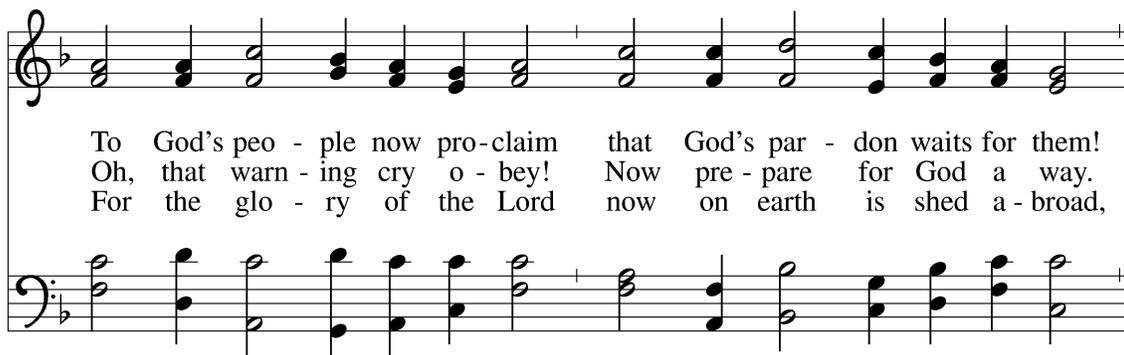
# Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

# There's a Voice in the Wilderness



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king,  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
 Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

**\*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

**C: Amen.**

**+ SENDING +**

**\*BENEDICTION**

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

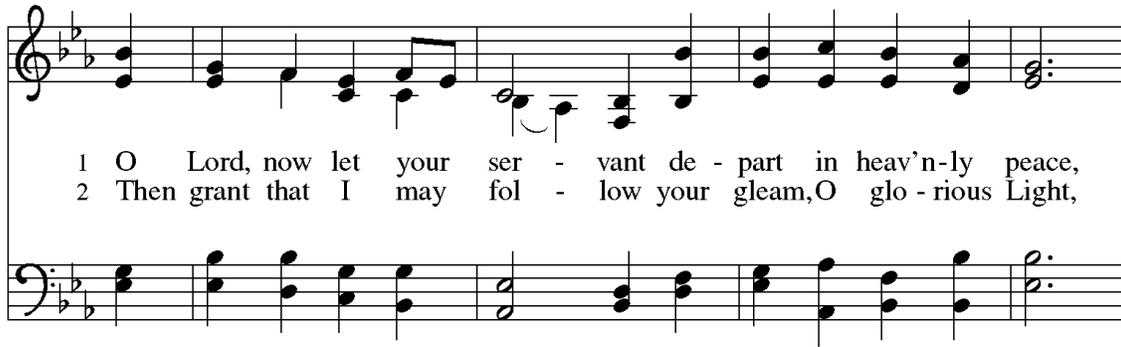
**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

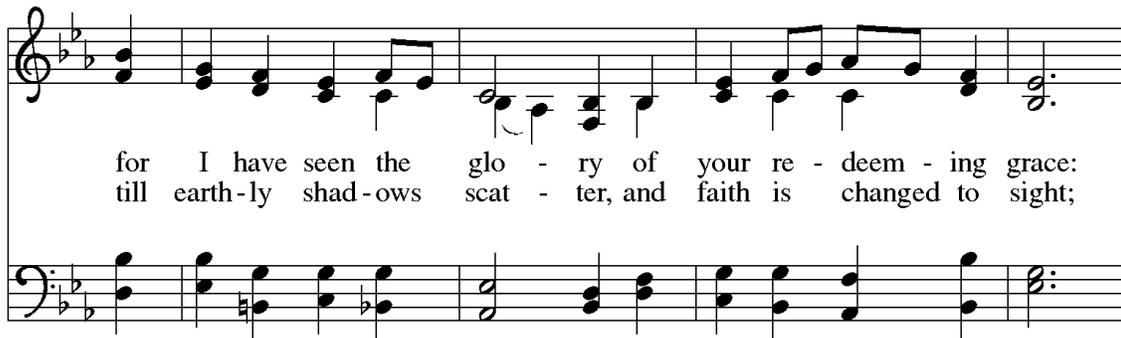
O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

ELW#313

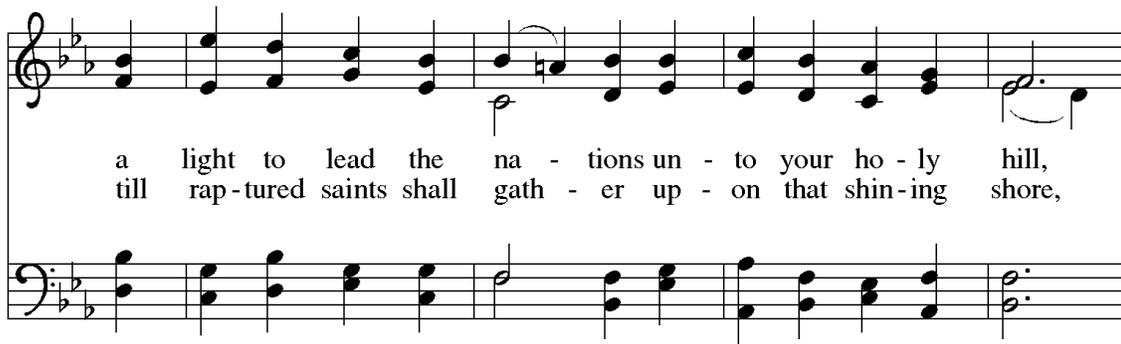
# O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



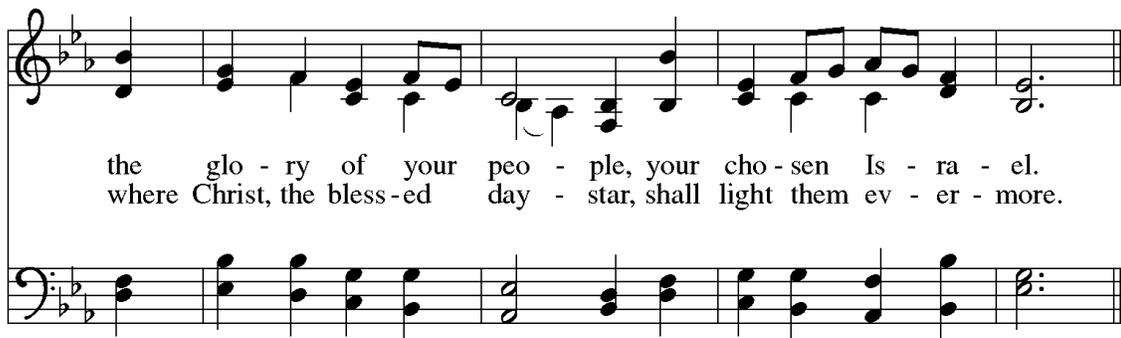
1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
where Christ, the bless-ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt.  
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

\*\*\*

*We depart in peace to continue our worship  
in lives of witness to Christ's love  
in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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## **At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas**

### **Sunday February 12**

#### **Camp Sunday**

#### **Sister Parish Virtual Delegation**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Adult Forum

9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study

11 a.m. Worship

### **Monday February 13**

10 a.m. Worship at Redbud Hills

### **Thursday February 16**

7 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **Saturday February 18**

10 a.m. Fiber Arts Spiritual Growth Group

### **Sunday February 19**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Lent Mini-Retreat

11 a.m. Worship

12 p.m. Lunch for LuMin Students

1:30 pm. Council Meeting

## **Condolences**

The St. Thomas community offers condolences to Dale and Christine Heidebrecht on the death of Dale's father Leland Heidebrecht, which occurred on February 4, 2023. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

## **Announcements**

### **Second Offering**

Today we are accepting a second offering for Lutheran World Relief. Use the QR code on the bulletin insert to donate directly to LWR, or indicate an additional gift on your offering envelope, or give using the donate link on our website, [stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)

## **Worship at Redbud Hills**

St. Thomas members, especially those who live at Redbud Hills Senior Living Community, are invited to Worship with Holy Communion in the chapel on the third floor of Redbud Hills on the **second Monday of the month, this time February 13 at 10 a.m.** (The February newsletter listed a different time; 10 a.m. is the correct time). St. Thomas members who are not residents are invited to sign up at the Welcome Desk to be a part of the hospitality team—greeting worshippers, passing out bulletins, helping with communion, and participating heartily in the service.

## **LuMin Lunch for Students**

Undergraduate and Graduate students are invited for lunch after the second service on **Sunday, February 19**. Join Pastors Amanda, Adrienne, and Lecia, Vicar Amy, and members of the St. Thomas council for a free lunch and conversation.

## **Lent Mini-Retreat**

Explore our Lenten theme, *Works of Love: a Christian's Freedom to Resist Despair*, at our Lent Mini-Retreat in Heritage Hall on **Sunday, February 19 at 9:45 a.m.** and before Ash Wednesday worship on Wednesday, February 22. There will be no Sunday School on February 19 so individuals, groups of friends, and children with their grown-ups can drop-in for activities and collect take-home resources to use during the season of Lent.

## **Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday is **February 22**. The Psalmist sings, “a broken and contrite heart, God, you will not despise,” and, so, we begin the season of Lent with confession. The imposition of ashes reminds us of our brokenness, our sin, our mortality—but in the symbol that points to wholeness, forgiveness, and resurrection: the cross. Join us for worship at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the worship space. Sign up to attend a luncheon following the 11 a.m. service. Volunteers are needed for set-up, clean-up, and to bring soup, bread, and dessert.

## **Youth Group**

**Sunday, February 26** is Game Night at First Presbyterian Church (221 E. Sixth St)! Junior high students are invited to join youth from other congregations for board games and pizza from **4 - 5:30 pm**. Senior high students will meet for games and pizza from **5:30 – 7 p.m.** Join us for an evening to relax and have fun together while getting to know other youth. If you have a favorite game, you can bring it to share. Please let Pastor Lecia if you plan to join us!

## **Prayers for those with health and safety concerns**

Elif Ogan, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Mike Ost, Bob Osborn, Andrew Halvorson, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Jan Coulter, Jeff Theis, Evelyn Niemeyer, Margrethe O'Connor, Jacky Harner, Helen Kane, and for our refugee family's relatives affected by the earthquake.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at [skcolston@aol.com](mailto:skcolston@aol.com) to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Altar care: Mary Sasse, Gail Seegert

Bread & Wine: Jaydene Laros

### **8:30 a.m. Service**

Assisting Minister: Allison Ward

Lectors: Jim Ward, Carol Seaman

Ushers: Lynn & Ute Coyne

Greeters: Mary Sasse

Council Coordinator: Kari Esarey

### **11 a.m. Service**

Assisting Minister: Robin Hershberger

Lectors: Debbie Selk, Janine Drake

Acolyte: Noelle Drake

Lord's Prayer Leader: Julianna Drake

Ushers: Craig & Kathy McDonald

Greeters: Gail Seegert, Moriah Reichert

Council Coordinator: Sarah Fogleman

**The altar flowers this week are given  
by Barb & Kent Unger  
in honor of their son Ryan's Birthday.**

## ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Kathryn Davidson  
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Melissa de Graaf  
Children's Choir Director

**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU  
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives,  
shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!**