



First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

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.

Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

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.

Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. 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.

+ GATHERING +

In moments of silence, or if you find yourself distracted, consider using this breath prayer to center yourself: (inhale) Where there is hatred; (exhale) let me sow love. You can carry this prayer with you throughout the week to come.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Great Litany

ELW#238

Great Litany

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is labeled "Leader" and begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains five quarter notes: D4, E4, G4, A4, and B4. Below the notes are the lyrics "Lord," followed by a slur over "have", and then "mer - cy.". The second staff is labeled "Assembly" and contains the same sequence of five quarter notes (D4, E4, G4, A4, B4) with the same lyrics below it. A double bar line separates the two parts.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, hear us. In mercy hear us.



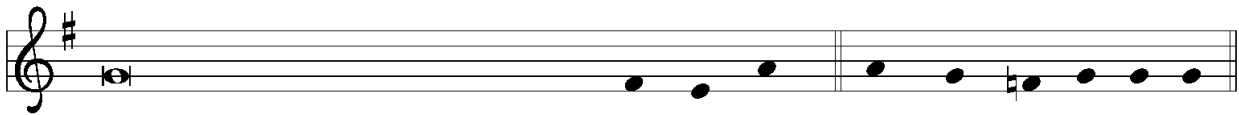
God, the Father in heaven, **have mer - cy on us.**
 God, the Son, redeemer of the world, **have mer - cy on us.**
 God, the Holy Spirit, **have mer - cy on us.**
 Holy Trinity, one God, **have mer - cy on us.**

Be grac - ious to us. **Spare** us, good Lord.

Be grac - ious to us. **Spare** us, good Lord.

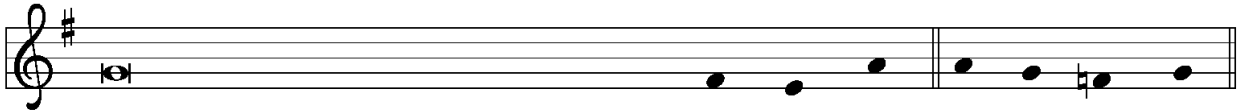
From all sin, from all error,
from all evil;
from the cunning assaults
of the devil;
from an unprepared and

e - vil death: **Good Lord, de - liv - er us.**



From war, bloodshed, and violence;
from corrupt and unjust government;
from sedi - tion and treason: **Good Lord, de - liv - er us.**

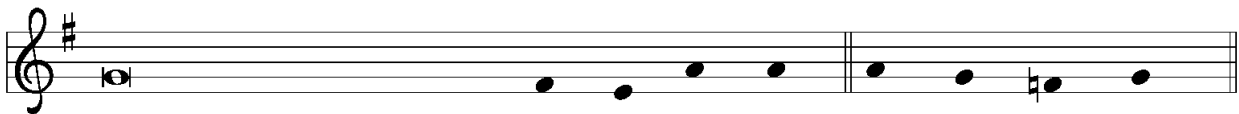
From epidemic, drought, and famine;
from fire and flood, earthquake,
lightning, and storm,
and from ever - last - ing death: **Good Lord, de - liv - er us.**



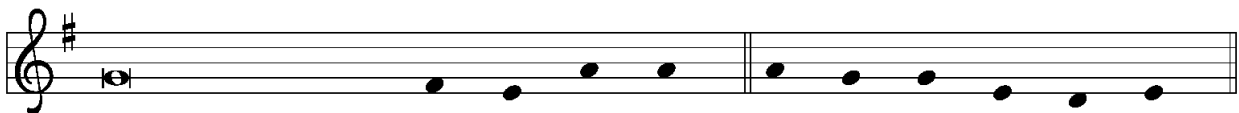
By the mystery of your incarnation; by your ho - ly birth: **Help us, good Lord.**

By your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by your agony and bloody sweat;
by your cross and suffering; by your death and burial: **Help us, good Lord.**

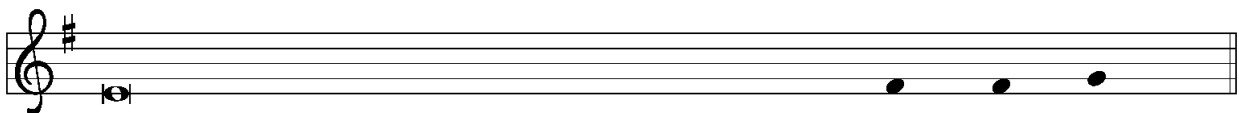
By your resurrection and ascension;
by the gift of the Ho - ly Spirit: **Help us, good Lord.**



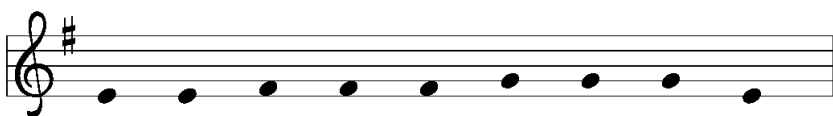
In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judg - ment: **Save us, good Lord.**



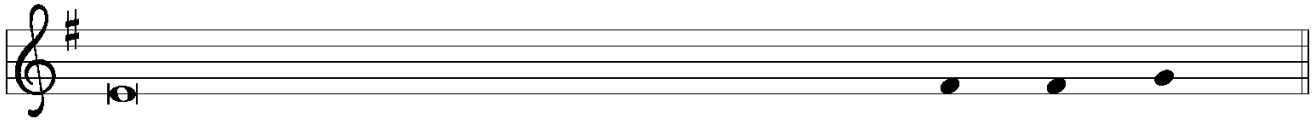
Though unworthy, we im - plore you to hear us, Lord our God.



To rule and govern your holy catholic church;
to guide all servants of your church
in the love of your word and in holiness of life;
to put an end to all schisms
and causes of offense to those who would believe;
and to bring into the way of truth all who have gone a - stray:



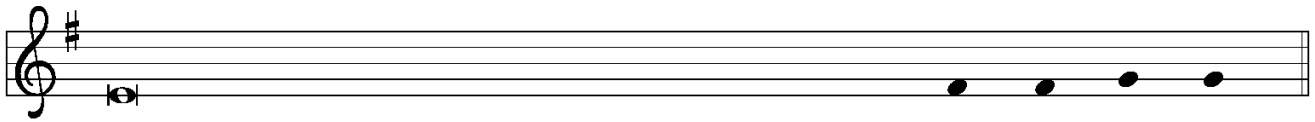
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



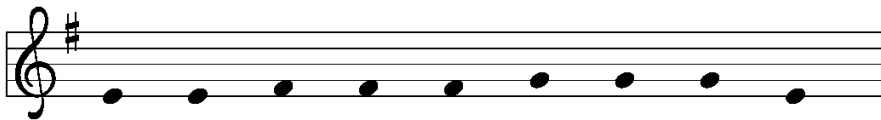
To beat down Satan under our feet;
to send faithful workers into your harvest;
to accompany your word with your Spirit and power;
to raise up those who fall
and to strengthen those who stand;
and to comfort and help the fainthearted and the dis - tressed:



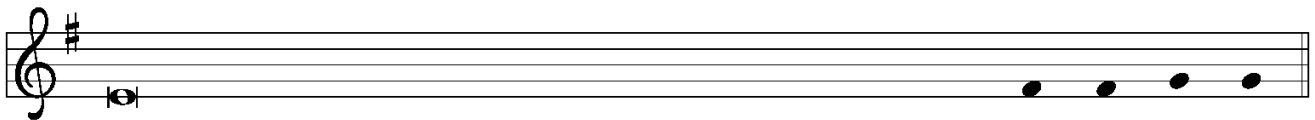
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



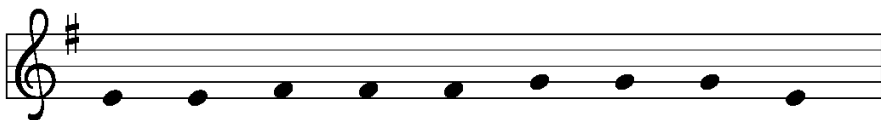
To give to all nations justice and peace;
to preserve our country from discord and strife;
to direct and guard those who have civil authority;
and to bless and guide all our peo - ple:



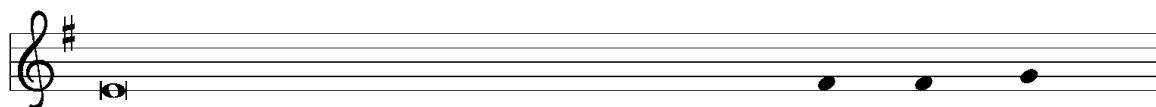
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



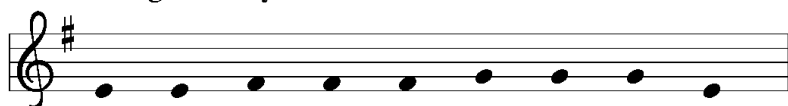
To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation;
to protect and guide all who travel;
to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth;
to watch over children and to guide the young;
to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends;
to bring reconciliation to families in discord;
to provide for the unemployed and for all in need;
to be merciful to all who are imprisoned;
to support, comfort, and guide
all orphans, widowers, and widows;
and to have mercy on all your peo - ple:



We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



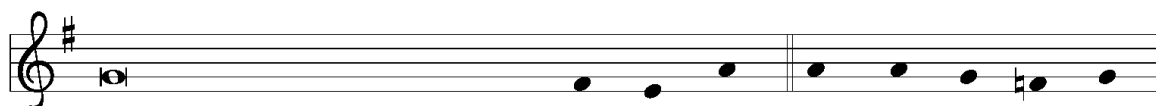
To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers,
and to reconcile us to them;
to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures
of the earth, the sea, and the air;
and graciously to hear our prayers:



We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



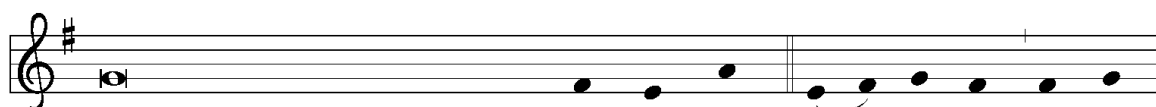
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we im - plore you to hear us.



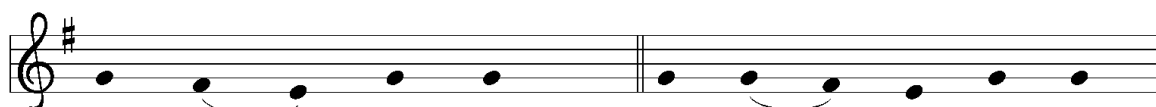
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



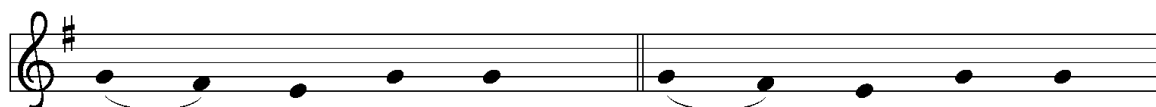
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; give us peace. A - men.



O Christ, hear us. In mer - cy hear us.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST READING

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

The Lord God took the human being and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the human being, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, 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."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 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.' " But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 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. 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.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,

and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom

the Lord imputes no guilt,

and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,

because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;

my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;

shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one person, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

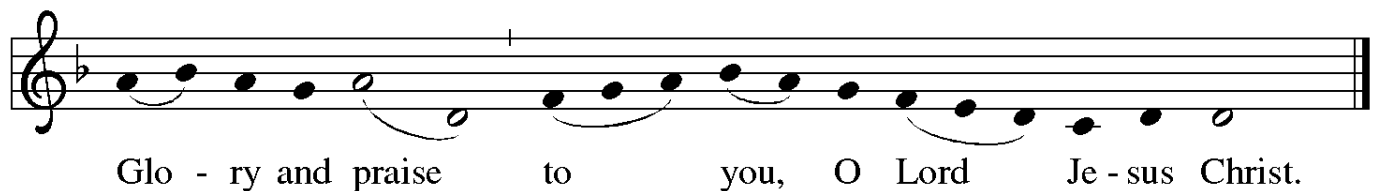
But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one person's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one person, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the gift is not like the effect of the one person's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one person's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one person, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one person's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one person's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as through the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one person's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 4:1-11

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the
mouth of God.' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and
placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,
saying to him, "If you are the Son of God,
throw yourself down, for it is written,

'God will command the angels concerning
you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot
against a stone.' "

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not
put the Lord your God to the test.' "

Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high
mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of
the world and their glory, and he said to him,
"All these I will give you, if you will fall down
and worship me." Then Jesus said to him,
"Away with you, Satan! for it is written,
'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve God alone.' "

Then the devil left Jesus, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

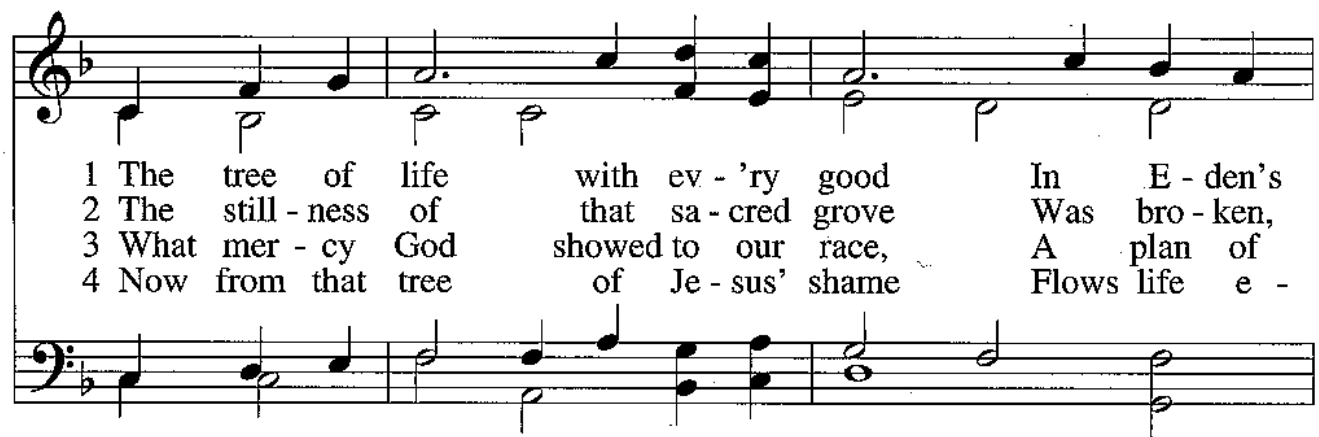
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

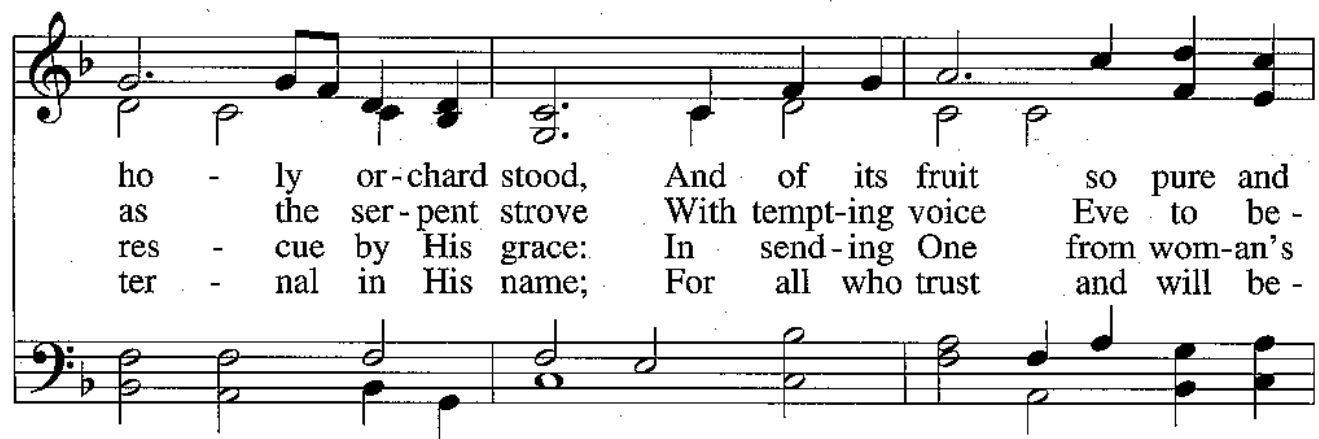
Pr. Adrienne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

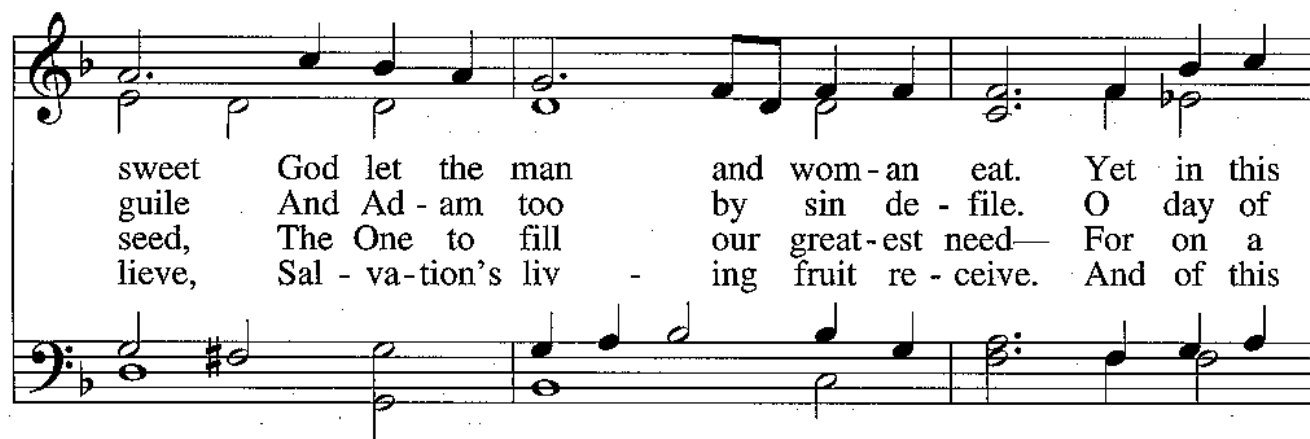
The Tree of Life



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's
2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,
3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of
4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



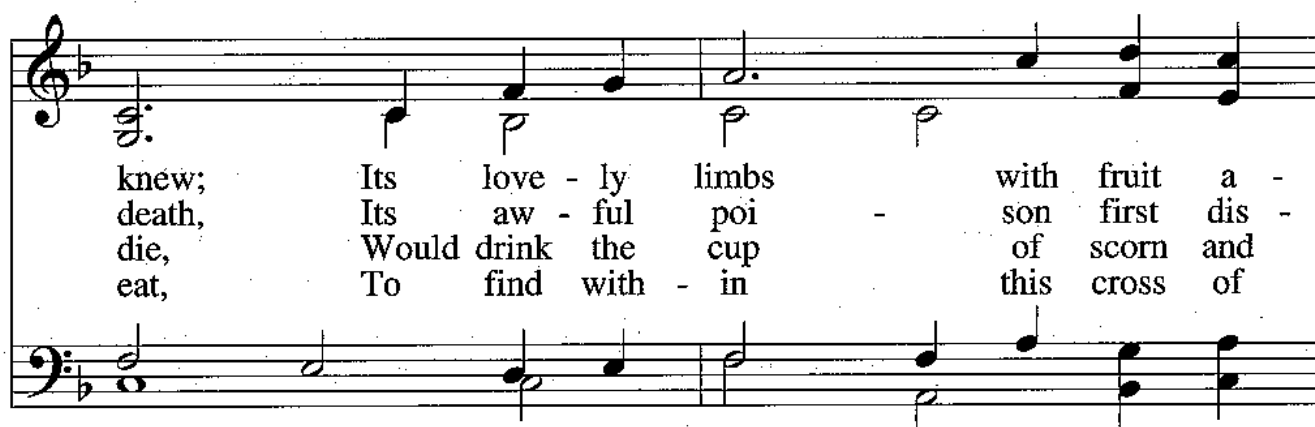
ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



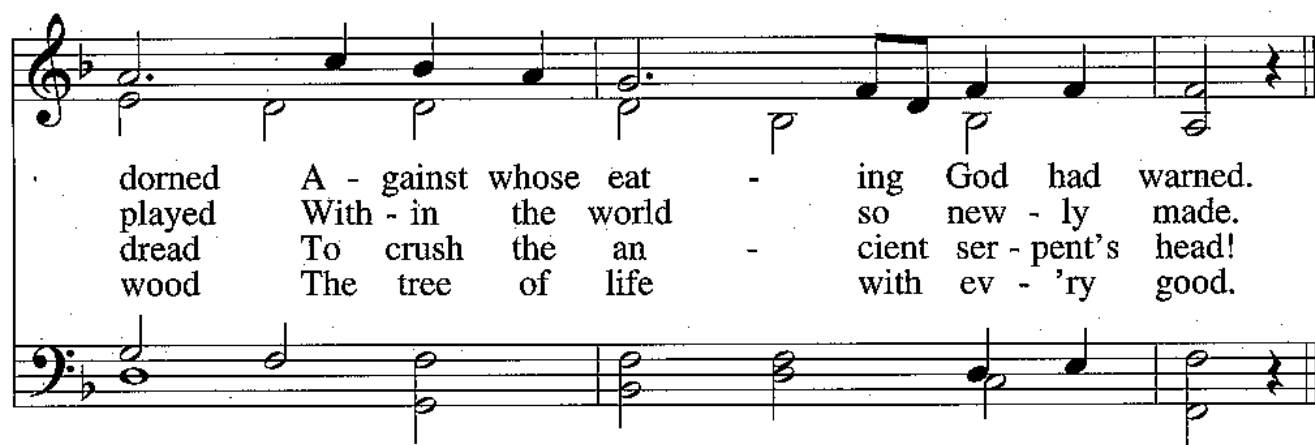
sweet God let the man and wom-an eat. Yet in this
 guile And Ad-am too by sin de-file. O day of
 seed, The One to fill our great-est need— For on a
 lieve, Sal-va-tion's liv-ing fruit re-ceive. And of this



gar-den al-so grew An-oth-er tree, of which they
 sad-ness when the breath Of fear and dark-ness, doubt and
 tree up-lift-ed high His on-ly Son for sin would
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in-vites the world to



knew; Its love-ly limbs with fruit a-
 death, Its aw-ful poi-son first dis-
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with-in this cross of



dorned A-against whose eat-ing God had warned.
 played With-in the world so new-ly made.
 dread To crush the an-cient ser-pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev-'ry good.

***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: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

A: God of all grace, grant faith to your church. In this new season of Lent, give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all creation, help us tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all nations, give us courage to face the challenges that each day brings. Surround all living in places of violence, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East, with your steadfast love. Give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who participate in the Grief Peer Support Groups. Be near to those in pain and sickness, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. We especially pray for Bob, Ethelyene, David, Gloria, John, Leslie, Lynn, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all people, provide for our community. Sustain those who serve in food pantries, especially Pantry 479 and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

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.*



*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***



Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

8:30 a.m. only
ORGAN OFFERTORY

Matthew Benkert

11 a.m. only
CHOIR ANTHEM
Call to Remembrance

Richard Farrant

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW#188

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of the hymn is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right'.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your'.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -'.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,'.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth system concludes the hymn. The lyrics are: 'and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.'.

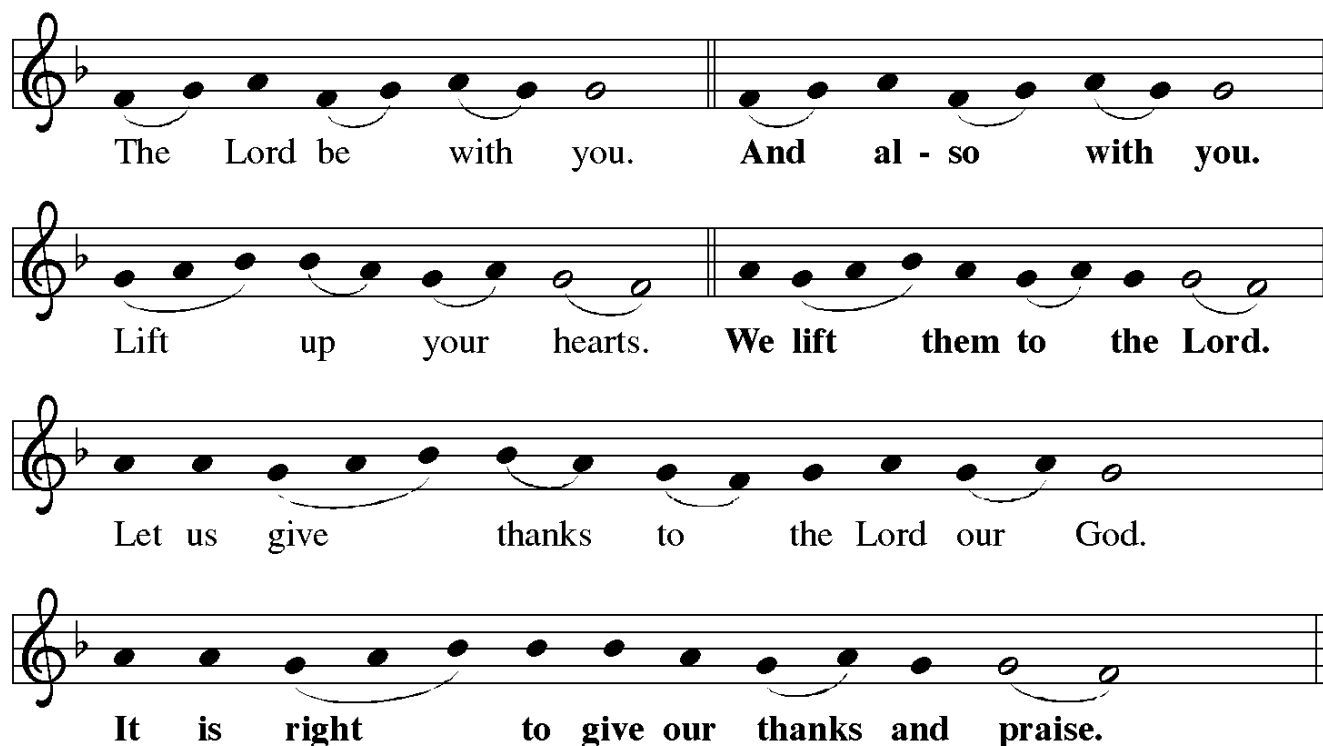
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are quarter notes, mostly beamed in pairs or groups of four. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The third staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff has a double bar line at the end.

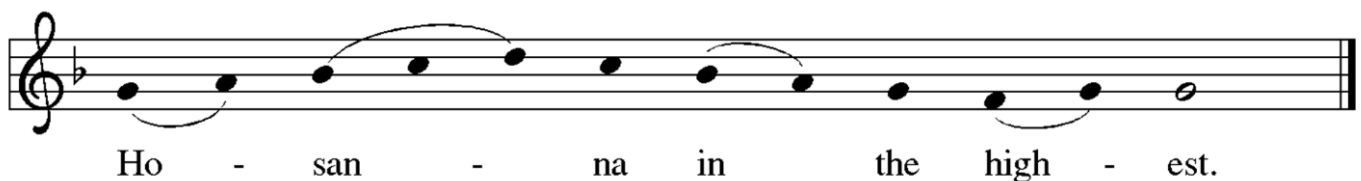
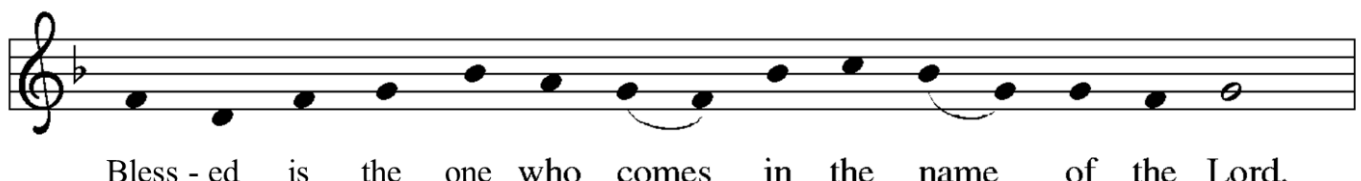
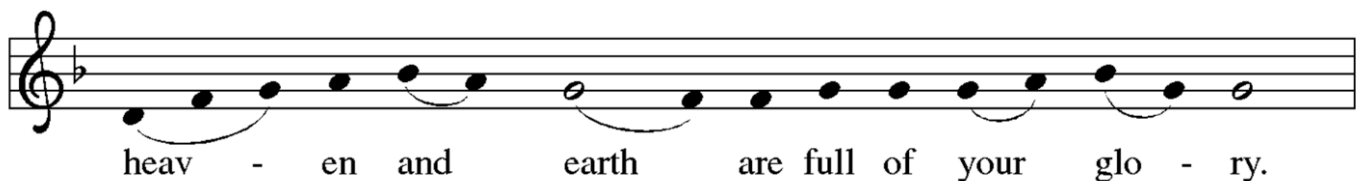
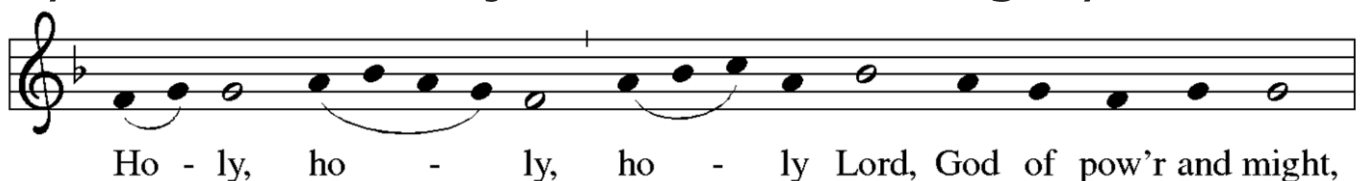
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. 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:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness
endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

P: 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.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures, with sun
and moon and stars, we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

*Speak this prayer in your preferred language.
The pastor will continue when all versions are
complete. Norwegian 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.**

Vår Far i himmelen!
La navnet ditt helliges.
La riket ditt komme.
La viljen din skje på jorden slik som i
himmelen.
Gi oss i dag vårt daglige brød,
og tilgi oss vår skyld,
slik også vi tilgir våre skyldnere.
Og la oss ikke komme i fristelse,
men frels oss fra det onde.
For riket er ditt og makten og æren i evighet.
Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's
goodness and mercy.

*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 an usher, and receive bread or
gluten-free wafer and wine in a common
chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in
individual cups. If you wish to receive a
blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

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

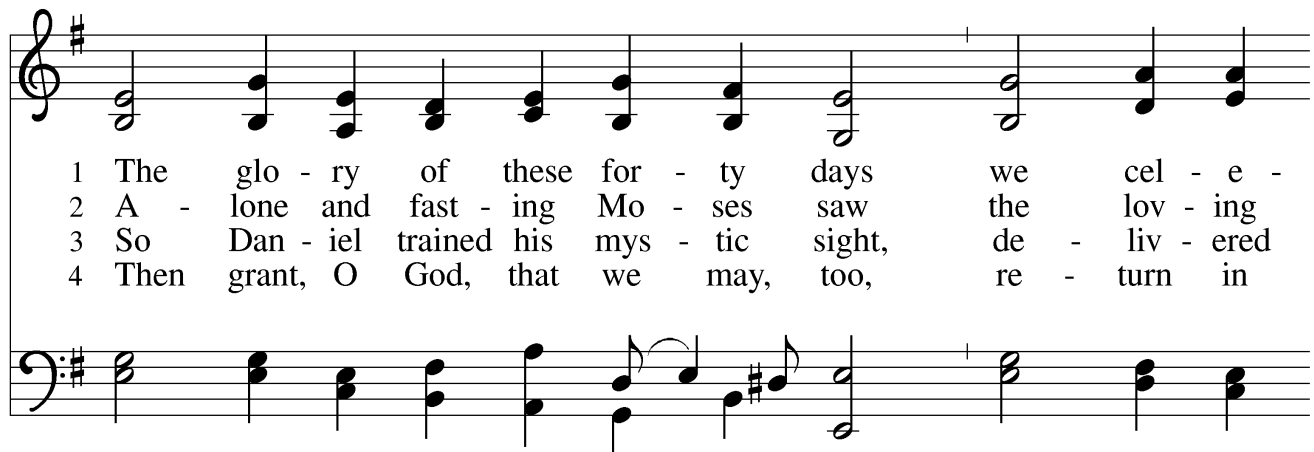
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

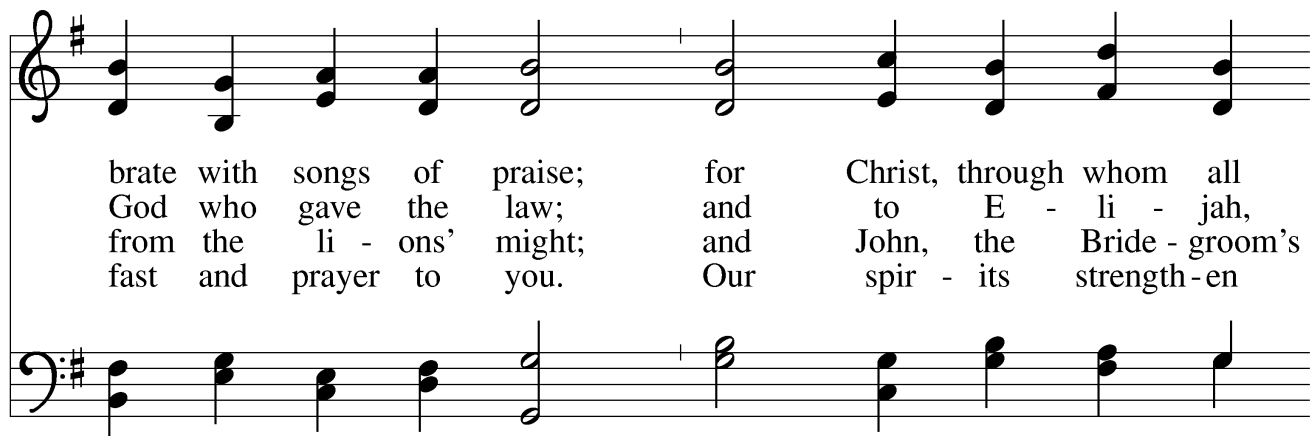
COMMUNION HYMNS

The Glory of These Forty Days

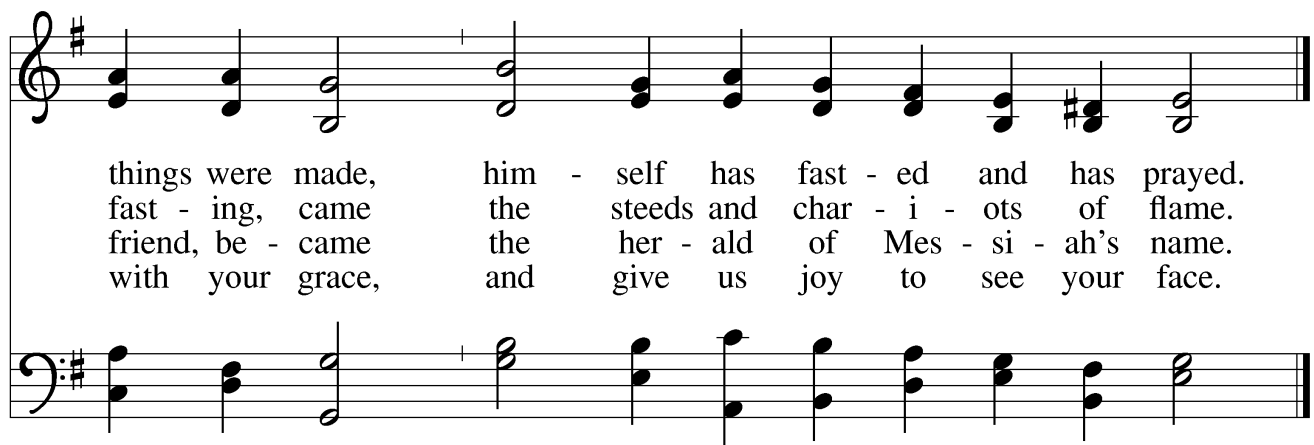
ELW#320



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

When We Are Tested

ACS#922



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

***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. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BENEDICTION**

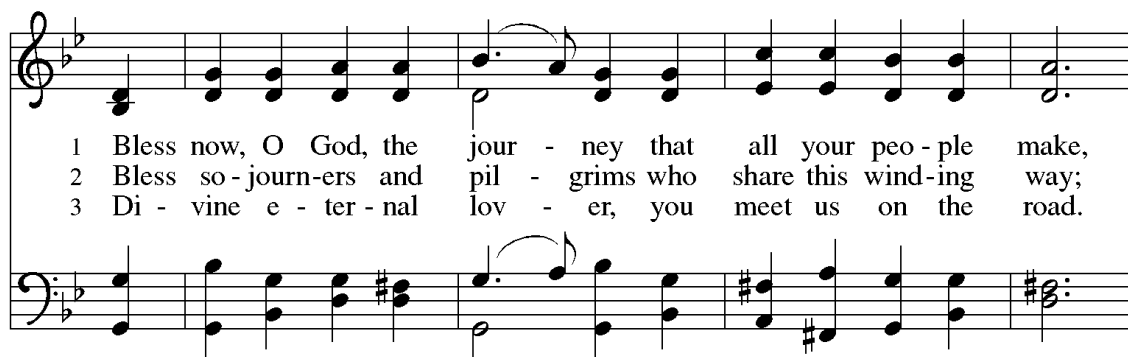
P: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ ✝ , to whom be the glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.

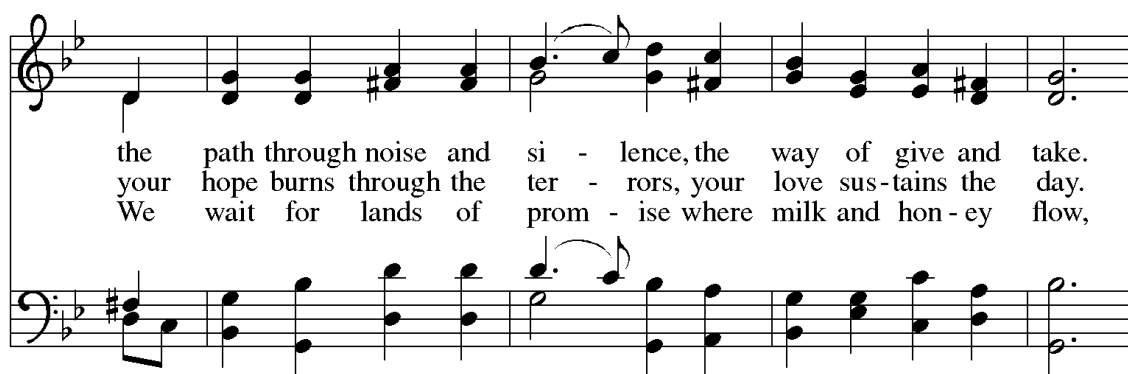
*SENDING HYMN

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW #326



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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*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

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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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday February 22

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
9:45 a.m. 60-Plus Group
11 a.m. Worship

Monday February 23

1 p.m. Pastors Bible Study

Tuesday February 24

8 p.m. GPS for Parents (Zoom Only)

Wednesday February 25

6 p.m. Soup Supper
7 p.m. Lenten Midweek Service

Thursday February 26

5:30 p.m. Brown Bag Dinner
7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday February 27

Office Closed

Saturday February 28

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day

Sunday March 1

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
12 p.m. LuMin Chili Cook-off

Next Steps

Looking for a way to get involved at STLC? Try this next step:

Offering Counter

Count financial gifts to the congregation and prepare a simple weekly report on a weekday morning (usually Mondays).

Contact the church office if you are interested in this next step. parishadmin@stlconline.org

Limited Office Hours and Office Closure

Erica is out of the office Thursday, February 26. The office will only be open limited hours. The office will be closed Friday, February 27.

60-Plus Group: Organizing Meeting, today, in between services

We're forming interest/activity groups and finding a monthly date for everyone to come together. Join us in Heritage Hall in between the services and let's get this group going!

Community Soup Suppers during Lent

On **Wednesdays** during Lent, share a simple supper of soup and bread at **6 p.m.** These suppers will be free and open to anyone who could use a warm meal and friendly company. After the supper, anyone can choose to attend Holden Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. Sign up on the Welcome Desk to set up, clean up, or to bring soup, bread, or dessert.

Lenten Midweek Services

On Wednesdays in the seasons of Lent, gather in the evenings in prayer and song. Poems and scripture readings on prayer and being instruments of God's peace will anchor Holden Evening Prayer. **Worship begins at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall.**

The Easter Bunny Needs Helpers!

The Mission Committee at St. Thomas Lutheran and the Outreach Committee at Trinity Episcopal Church are once again working together to provide Easter baskets for 100 children living in Middle Way, New Hope for Families, and Crawford shelters. The baskets are for children (ages 0 – 17) whose families have experienced homelessness or housing instability and who are currently living in supported housing. During Lent there will be a collection box in the narthex for small new items like toys, coloring books, card games, and stuffed bunnies to fill the baskets. The baskets and candy will be purchased separately. We especially need items for babies and teens. Parishioners can shop locally or online from our Amazon wish list here <https://amzn.to/4aru5TK>. Items will be collected throughout Lent. We will gather for an all-ages basket assembly project on the afternoon of **Palm Sunday, March 29!**

LuMin Chili Cook-Off

Join on Sunday March 1, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. for our Third Annual Campus Ministry sponsored Chili Cook-Off held at St Thomas. Members and friends of St. Thomas will be vying for the title of "Best Chili" and it is up to you all to pick the winner via ranked choice voting. A silent auction will be held alongside the cook-off featuring items such as IU themed baskets, surprise boxes, and a four-hour decluttering service. A Free Will Offering will be accepted to help support the campus ministry. If you have additional questions, please message Pastor Amanda at lutheran@iu.edu or look for updates on our Facebook Event page for the Chili Cook-Off.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3343858085791745>



GROUP PEER SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

TUESDAYS

February 10 & 24

March 3 & 24

April 7 & 21

8-9 PM

For more information or to receive
Zoom link, email Pastor Lecia
pastorleciabeck@gmail.com.

**MEET
ON
ZOOM**

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Bob Osborn, Ethelyene Thomason, David Ellies, Gloria Hitchcock, John Kinzer, Leslie Main, Lynn Weddle, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

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 to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Shirley Mingee, Sacha Arterberry,
Rebekah Arnold, Lydia Arnold

Bread & Wine: Karlyn Grise

Coffee Crew: Casey Main, Marcus Hershberger,
Debbie Selk

Prayer Writer: Janine Drake

A/V Tech: Jim Ward

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Allison Ward

Lectors: Sacha Arterberry, Ian Bensberg

Ushers: Frank & Mary Lou Nierzwicki

Communion Steward: Carol Seaman

Greeters: Del & Letty Newkirk

Council Coordinator: Dean Arnold

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Mike Witt

Lectors: Kathleen Boggess, Ashley Ahlbrand

Acolyte: Lucy Meier

Ushers: Randy & Nancy Nye

Communion Steward: Kathleen Boggess

Council Coordinator: Justin Rust

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Partners in ministry with
**Lutheran Church of
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Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with
Sister Parish
Iglesia Santo Domingo
de Guzman, Chichipate
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,
Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
**Lutheran Campus Ministry
at Indiana University**
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,
Campus Pastor
lutheran@iu.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

Rev. Adrienne Meier
Senior Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Rev. Lecia Beck
Pastor of Youth and Christian Nurture
christiannurture@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert
Director of Music and Organist
directorofmusic@stlconline.org

Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

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!**