

# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF ST. MARK

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## TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT February 15, 2026

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*

WELCOME CHILDREN OF GOD TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

*Guests—please take a moment to fill out a guest card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We would like to acknowledge your time with us and extend a friendly hand of hospitality.*

*Please **turn all cell phones off** or on vibrate before the worship service begins.*

*\*Stand as you are able, in body or spirit.*

*The responses of the people are printed in **bold**.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Until the Whole World Hears*  
by Casting Crowns

Herms, Hall,  
McArthur, Glidewell

1. Lord, I want to feel your heart, and see the world through your eyes.  
I want to be your hands and feet, I want to live a life that leads.  
Ready yourselves, ready yourselves.  
Let us shine the light of Jesus in the darkest night.  
Ready yourselves, ready yourselves,  
May the powers of darkness tremble as our praises raise.

Until the whole world hears, Lord, we are calling out;  
Lifting up Your name for all to hear the sound,  
Like voices in the wilderness we're crying out,  
As the day draws near, we'll sing until the whole world hears.

2. Lord, let your sleeping giant rise, catch the demons by surprise,  
Holy nation sanctified, let this be our battle cry.

I want to be your hands and feet, I want to live a life that leads,  
To see you set the captives free until the whole world hears;  
And I pray that they will see more of You and less of me.  
Lord, I want my life to be the song You sing.

\*We gather in the name of the Father and the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

## \*CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Sit or kneel.*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Mighty God, lover of justice, you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

# \*GATHERING HYMN

## *Shine, Jesus, shine*

ELW 671

Verses / Estrofas



1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the  
2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, From the  
3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, So our



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the  
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By the blood I may  
fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from



world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now  
en - ter your bright - ness; Search me, try me, con - sume all my  
glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your



bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
dark - ness: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,



flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,



Lord, and let there be light!

## \*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.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God*



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly  
 Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

*Refrain*  
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

EXODUS 24:12-18

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the Lord” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

A reading from Exodus:

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” <sup>15</sup> Then Moses

went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

2

*The refrain is sung by all at the beginning of the Psalm and then at each R.*

### Refrain



### Tone



- <sup>1</sup> Why are the nations | in an uproar?  
Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?
- <sup>2</sup> **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes | plot together,  
against the Lord and against the | Lord's anointed?**
- <sup>3</sup> "Let us break their | yoke," they say;  
"let us cast off their | bonds from us."
- <sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing;  
the Lord holds them | in derision. R**
- <sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God | speaks to them,  
and in rage fills | them with terror.
- <sup>6</sup> **"As for me, I have anoint- | ed my king  
upon Zion, my | holy mountain."**
- <sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree | of the Lord,  
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- | gotten you.
- <sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for | your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for | your possession. R**
- <sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an | iron rod  
and shatter them like a | piece of pottery."
- <sup>10</sup> **And now, you | kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers | of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup> Submit to the | Lord with fear,  
 and with trembling | bow in worship;  
<sup>12</sup> **lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden | blaze of wrath.**  
**Happy are all who take ref- | uge in God! R**

## SECOND READING

2 PETER 1:16-21

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

A reading from 2 Peter:

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All sing refrain. Choir will sing verse. All repeat refrain.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

This is my | Son, my Chosen,  
 lis- | ten to him!

## \*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 17:1-9

*In Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

<sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

REV. DR. DAVID GRAFTON

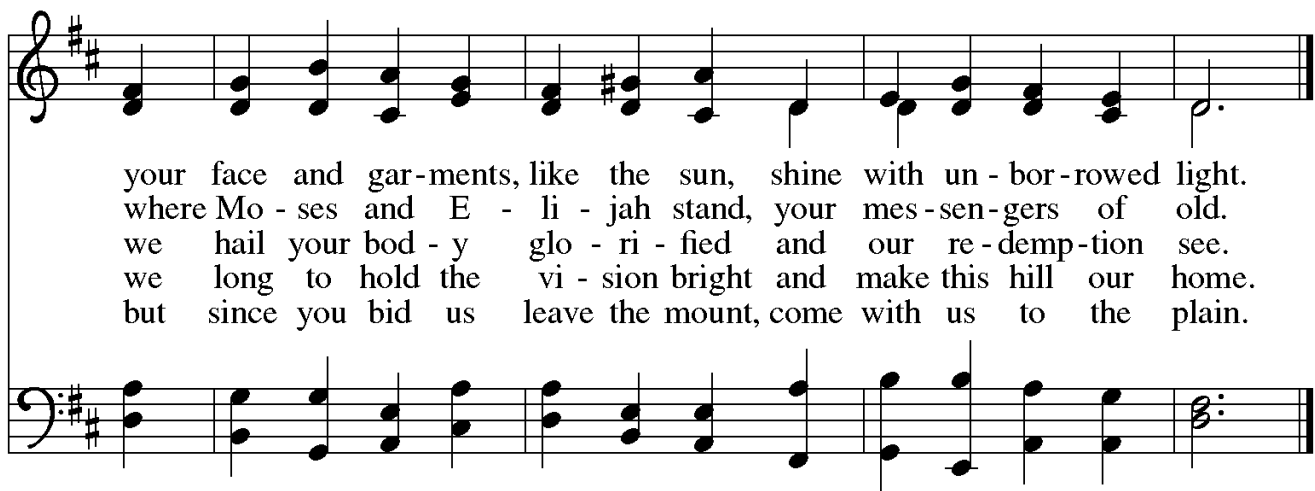
## \*HYMN OF THE DAY

*How good, Lord, to be here!*

ELW 315

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;





Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.  
Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

## \*NICENE CREED

Living together in trust and hope we confess what we believe

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The assisting minister prays the petition. The congregation responds to the petitions that end "Lord in your mercy with: "**hear our prayer.**" and those that end "O, God we give you thanks" with: "**Thanks be to God**"*  
*The prayers conclude with the pastoral petition followed by a congregational "**Amen.**"*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O, God we give you thanks. **Thanks be to God.**

Into your hands... Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## \*THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## MEAL

### OFFERING ANTHEM

*Transfiguration*

Mertes, Fund

As we climb up higher, break our hearts wider,  
Your love grows greater, make a change in me, change in me.  
Make my hands kinder, make my words wiser,  
Make my feet faster, call me, I'm ready, I'm ready.

We will all be changed, our hearts and minds made new,  
We will all be changed.

James and John and Peter, climbed the mountain higher.  
Jesus' face shone brighter than the stars, than the sun,  
They said, "It is good for us to be here, let us build a house here",  
Jesus said, "Do not fear, It's time to go now, it's time to go."

Jesus climbed the mountain, face shining like the sun,  
Jesus climbed the mountain.

## \*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

**God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

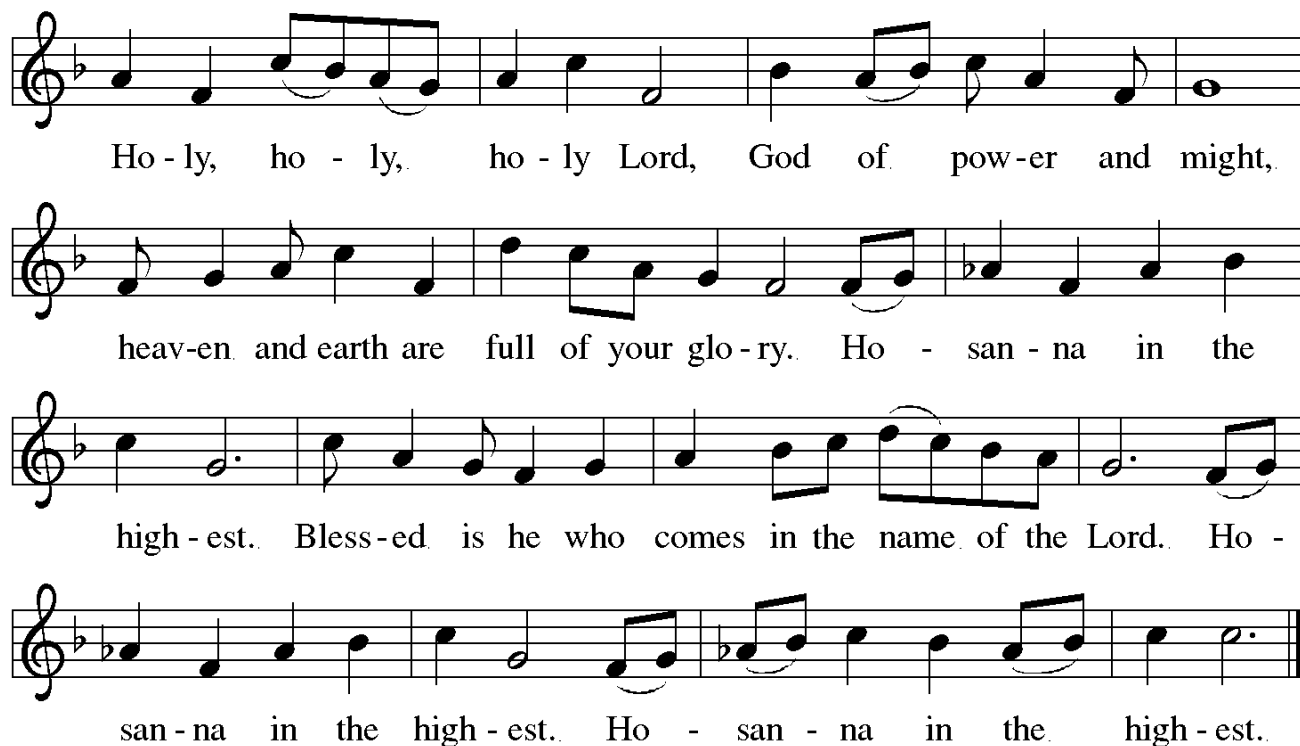
## \*PREFACE DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

## \*PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed ... unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



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..

## \*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you... now and forever. **Amen.**

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

With boldness and confidence, we pray as Christ taught us:

**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**

## \*COMMUNION INVITATION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. Inform the pastor if you need a **gluten-free host**. Grape juice is available in the center rings of the wine tray. Children or adults who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament today may come forward and receive a blessing. Please indicate you would like a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest in the form of an X.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

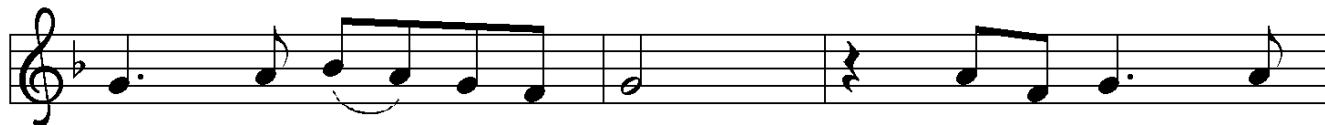
### *Lamb of God*



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.





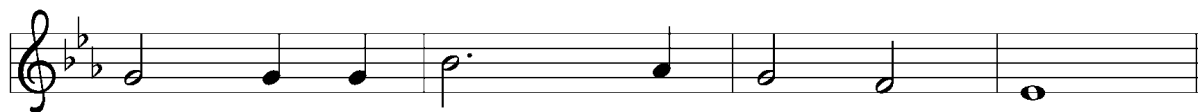
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## PRAYER IN THE ABSENCE OF COMMUNION

*Those not receiving communion are invited to pray the following while communion is being distributed:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation. I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion. I am baptized into your death and resurrection. I seek you daily and worship and adore you. When I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul, as you always have, through Confession and Forgiveness, through the proclamation of your holy Word, and through the prayers of your people; that I may remain united to you by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace. Be for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death. I pray this, trusting that you are my life, my peace, and my everlasting joy. Amen.

## \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*BENEDICTION

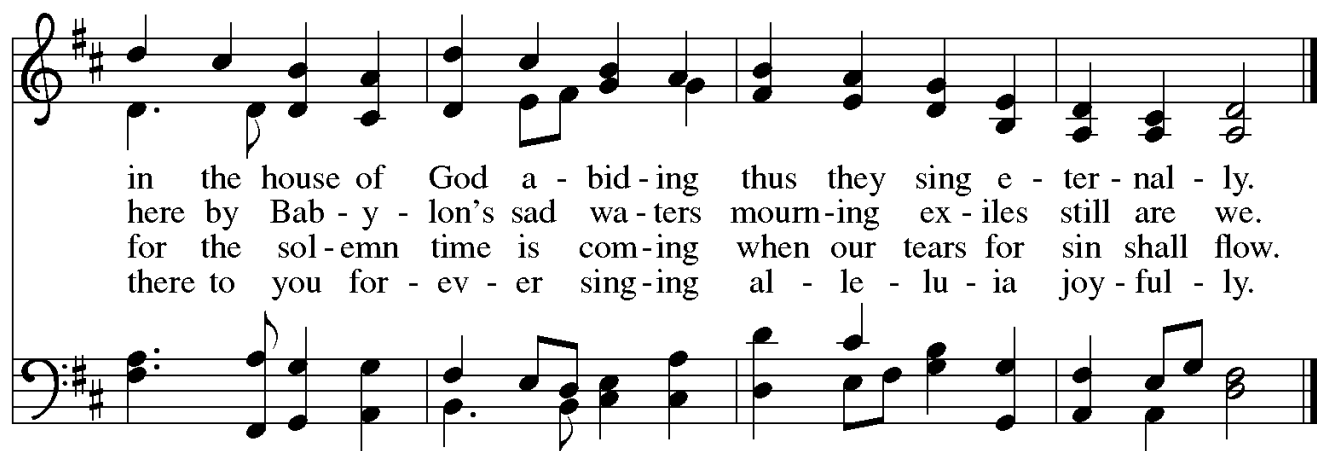
May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## \*SENDING HYMN

*Alleluia, song of gladness*

ELW 318

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;  
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;  
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;  
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,  
al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;  
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;  
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;  
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Calling*  
sung by Jan Frick

Crabb, Cox, Gooch

Are you standing at the crossroads, not sure which way to go,  
A weary hear, a troubled mind, A hunger in your soul?  
You've tried the world and all it's ways,  
and they've just left you low.  
You don't need another dead end road.  
Can you hear him calling?  
Calling out your name  
Calling, come and be saved.

THANK YOU TO REV. DR. DAVID GRAFTON  
FOR PREACHING AND LEADING WORSHIP TODAY!

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Ellen, Sue and Sara  
in celebration of Ed Zerillo's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please join us for Bible Study this evening at 6:00pm
- We are in need of items for the School Backpack Program! Each month, we need 64 of each of the following: Individual Oatmeal, Granola or Cereal Bars, Individual Boxes of Cereal,

Single Serving Soups, Individual Microwavable Mac & Cheese Cups, and Individual Fruit Cups. Please, no cans. It makes the backpacks too heavy for the children. Many thanks for your help and generosity!

- **Carol's Closet is in need of donated items.** Please see the list on the bulletin board and place donations in the coat room.
- Please join our friends from Emanuel & Concordia Lutheran Churches for an **Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, February 18, 7:00pm, at Emanuel Lutheran Church**, 60 Church Street, Manchester, CT. Please note that there will be no service at St. Mark that day.
- **Lenten Weekday Prayer Offices:** Please join us for Matins via Zoom Tuesdays at 9:00am. Starting February 26, please join us on Thursdays in Lent for Soup and Bread at 6:15pm, followed by Matins (in-person & Zoom) at 7:00pm. Please sign up to bring soup or bread on the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. There are still slots for March 5 and March 12 open. Thank you
- **Concert at St. Mark! Next Sunday, February 22, at 5:00pm.** Tenuto, Hartford's own one-on-a-part a cappella vocal ensemble performs a full-length program at St. Mark. We invite everyone to come out and soak in an evening of close harmony, good ears, and beautiful singing. Not to be missed!

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Sunday, February 15	9:00am	<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> Service of Word and Sacrament led by Rev. Dr. David Grafton followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by Folk Group Friends
	6:00pm	Bible Study
Tuesday, February 17	9:00am	Matins via Zoom
	7:00pm	Church Council
Wednesday, February 18	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday service at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Manchester, CT
Thursday, February 19	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, February 22	9:00am	Service of Word and Sacrament followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by GF & Friends
	5:00pm	Tenuto Concert



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<https://www.youtube.com/user/stmarkglastonbury>  
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