

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF ST. MARK

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THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

February 8, 2026

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

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

Rise, shine, you people!

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

*CONFESSON

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm 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.

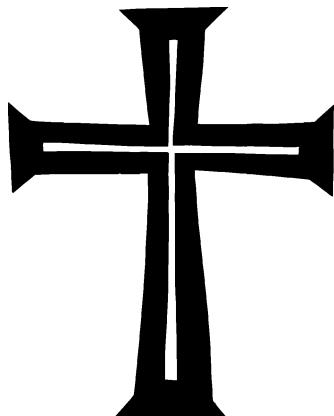
Sit or kneel.

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 \pm Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.



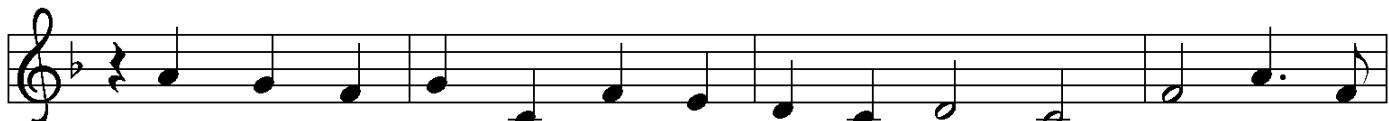
*GATHERING HYMN

Rise, shine, you people!

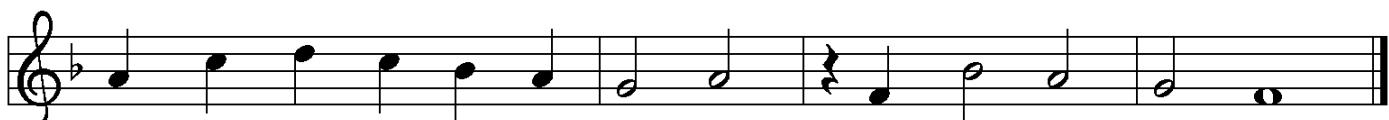
ELW 665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*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

Refrain



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.

Refrain



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

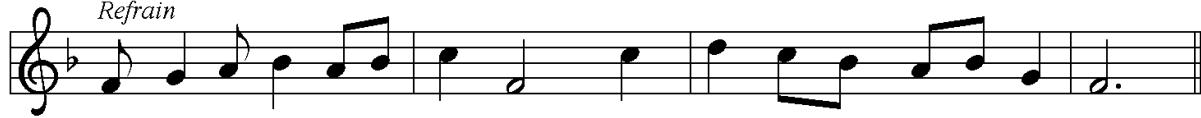


God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



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

Refrain



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.**

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 58:1-9A

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

A reading from Isaiah:

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble

oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

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

PSALMODY

112:1-9

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

Refrain

Light shines in the dark - ness for the up - right.

Tone

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the Lord
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion. R

⁵ It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will nev- | er be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the Lord.

⁸ **Their heart is established and | will not shrink,**
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor. R

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

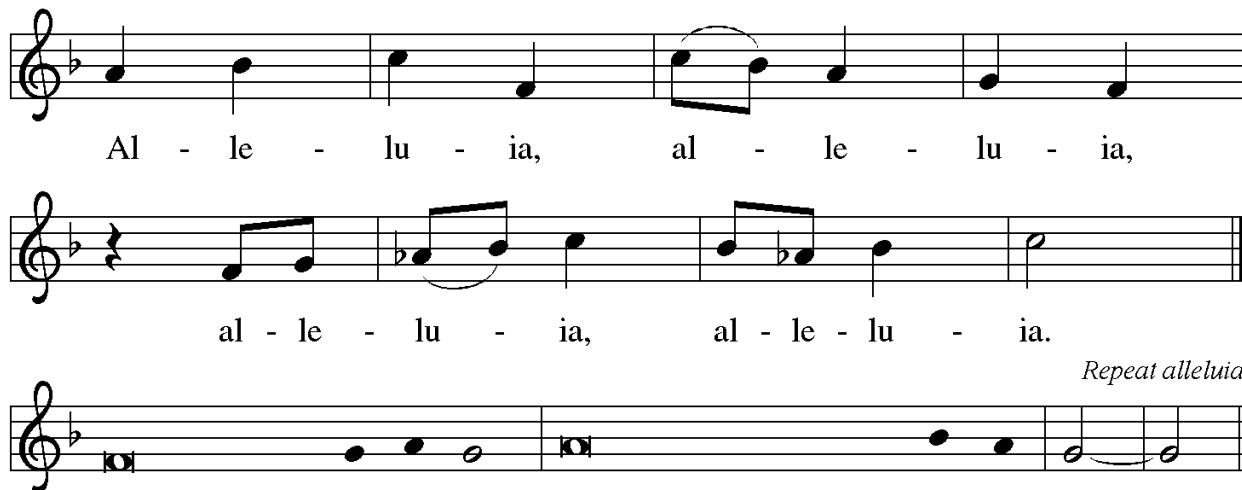
A reading from 1 Corinthians:

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by 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

Jesus says, I am the light ¹ of the world;
whoever follows me will have the ¹ light of life.

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ When [Jesus said:] ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

SERMON

REV. MARK LINGLE

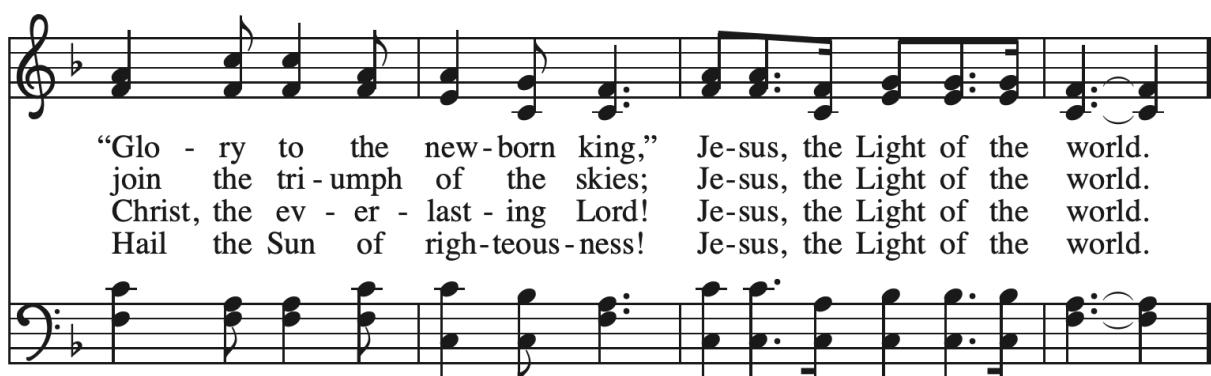
*HYMN OF THE DAY

We'll walk in the light

ACS 914



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;
3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.
join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain
Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

*APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope we confess what we believe.

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 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**

MEAL

*THE PEACE

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

OFFERING ANTHEM

Plenty Good Room
African American Spiritual

arr. William Henry Smith

Refrain:

Plenty good room, plenty good room,
plenty good room in my Father's kingdom,
Plenty good room, plenty good room,
just choose your seat and sit down.

1 I would not be a sinner,
I'll tell you the reason why;
cause if my Lord should call on me
I wouldn't be ready to die. [Refrain]

2 I would not be a liar,
I'll tell you the reason why;
cause if my Lord should call on me
I wouldn't be ready to die. [Refrain]

3 I would not be a backslider,
I'll tell you the reason why;
cause if my Lord should call on me
I wouldn't be ready to die. [Refrain]

*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.

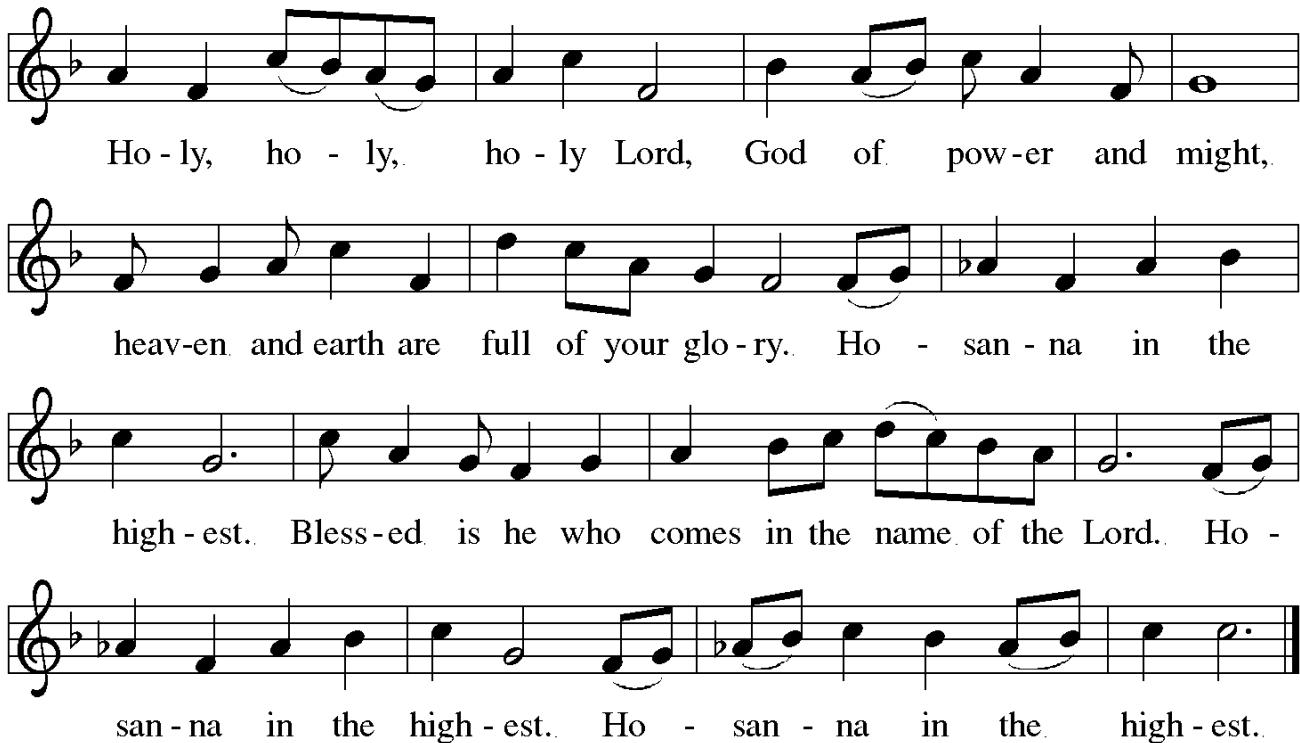
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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..

*EUCHARISTIC 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.

Taste and see

ELW 493

Refrain - All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord.

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34

Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.

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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

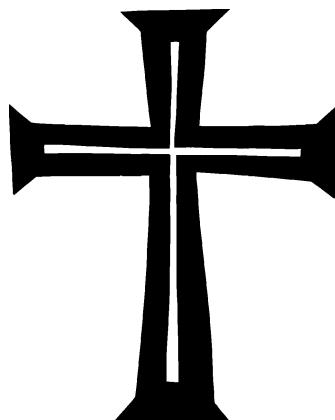
Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our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

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

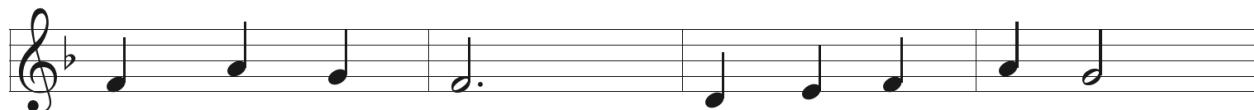
*BENEDICTION

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

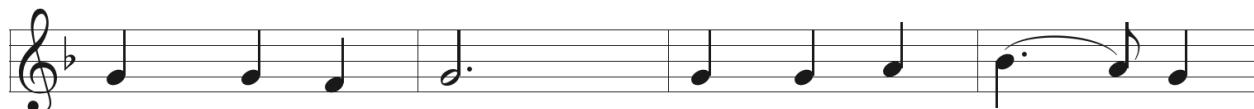
God's work, our hands



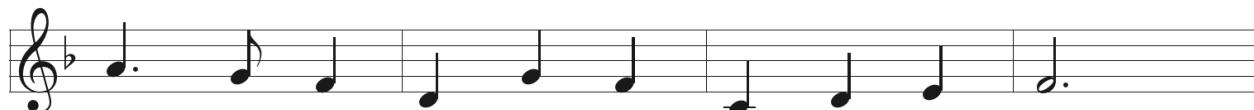
1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - - - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS, Wayne L. Wold

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*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F

Dietrich Buxtehude

THANK YOU TO REV. MARK LINGLE
FOR PREACHING AND LEADING WORSHIP TODAY!

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Deb and Mark Gresens
in celebration of the 16 year anniversary of her valve repair surgery.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Please join us after worship** for a special coffee hour with Rev. Mark Lingle.
- **Please note that there is no Bible Study this evening.** Enjoy the Super Bowl!
- **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. Thank you.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Sunday, February 8	9:00am	Service of Word and Sacrament led by Rev. Mark Lingle followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by Godfellas
Tuesday, February 10	9:00am	Matins via Zoom
Wednesday, February 11	7:00pm	Vespers via Zoom
Thursday, February 12	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, February 15	9:00am	Transfiguration of Our Lord Service of Word and Sacrament led by Rev. Dr. David Grafton followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by Folk Group Friends



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