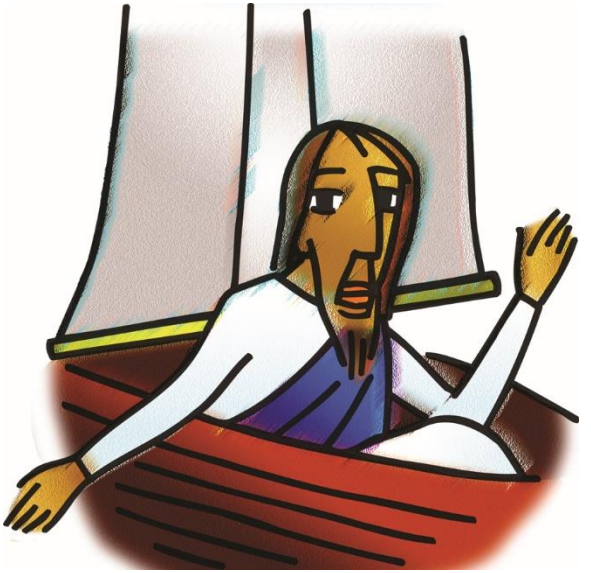
ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 2025

Whenever you see an asterisk (*), you are invited to stand as you are able.
You are invited to speak sans serif **Bolded type** with the congregation.

Introduction to the Day

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

Prelude

Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit. A: Amen.

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **A: Amen.**

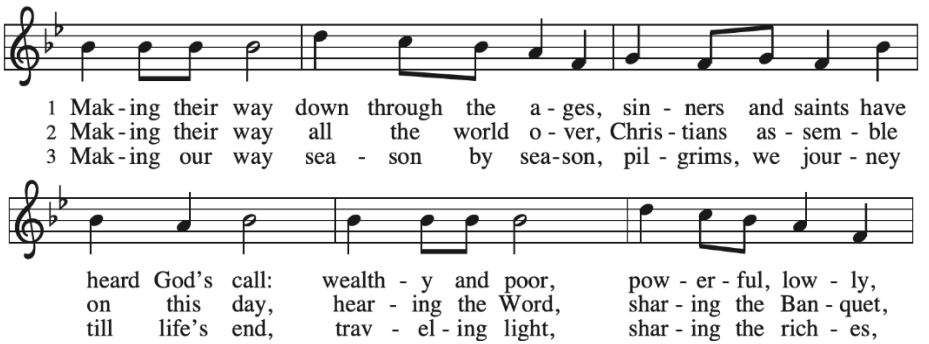
P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

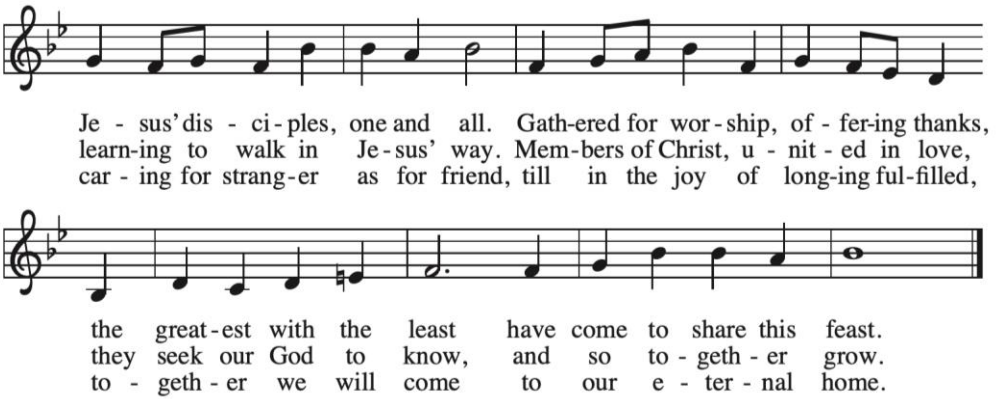
P: Let us confess our sin, in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. A: Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn *"Making Their Way* *(ACS 979)*





Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank*, 1626
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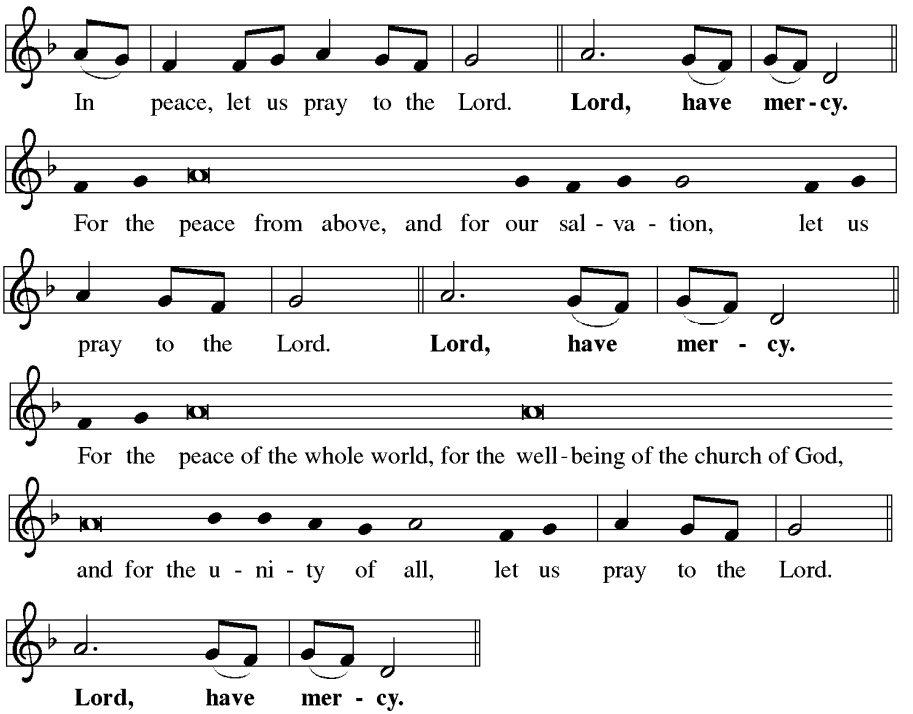
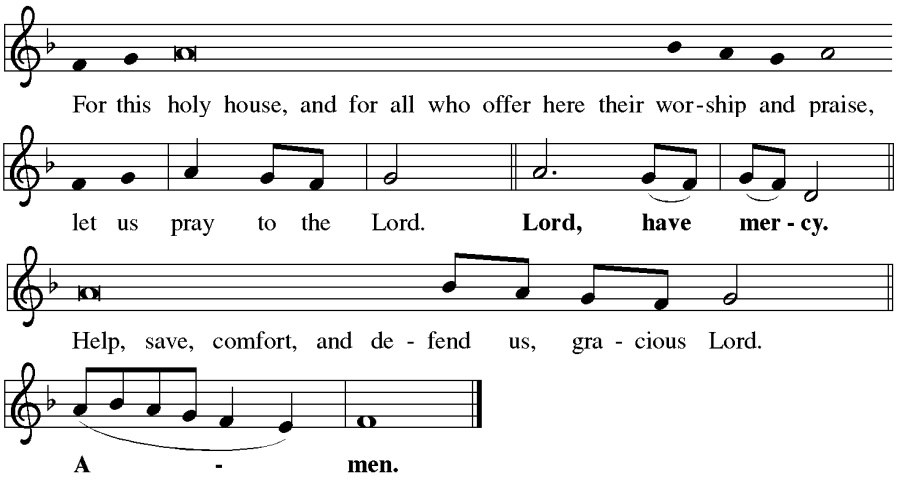
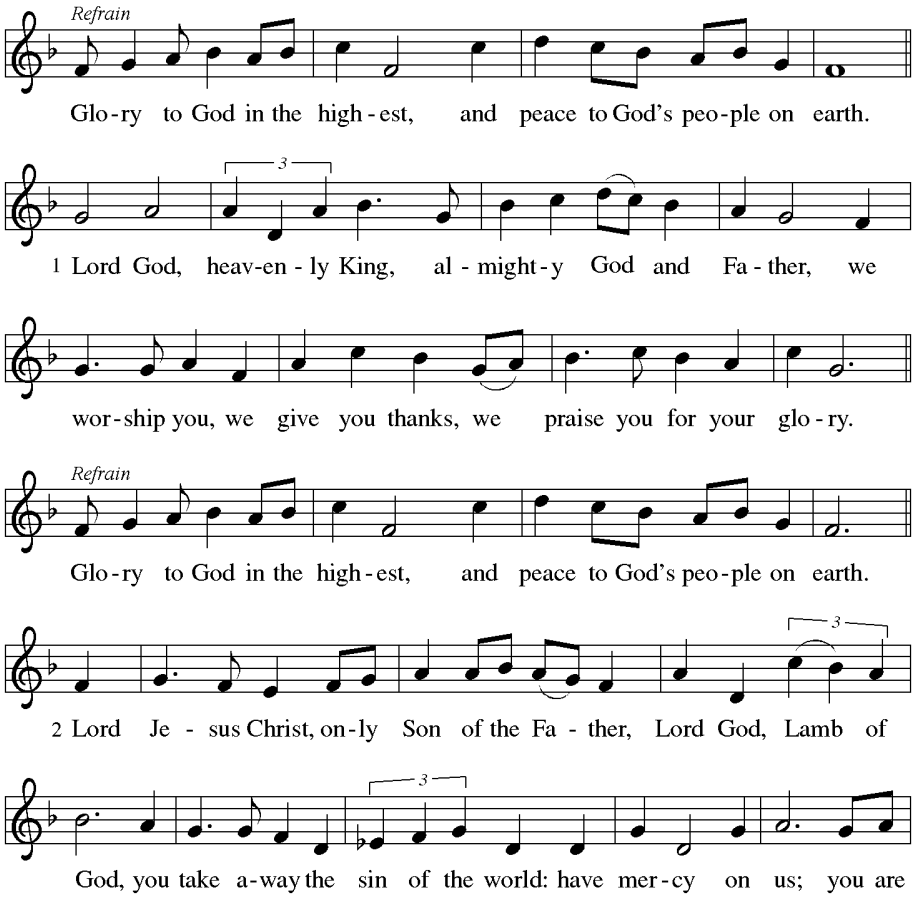
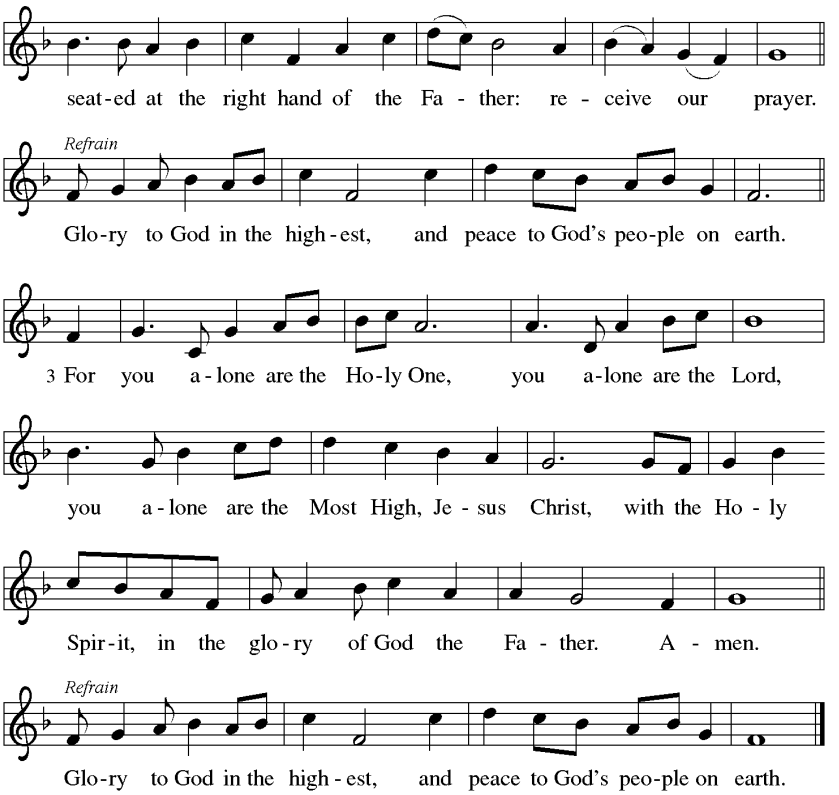
*GREETING

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

KYRIE





HYMN OF PRAISE

*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also, with you.**
P: Let us pray. Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

The first reading usually is chosen for its connection to the day's Gospel reading. The connection today is calling – of Isaiah and of Peter. Isaiah's is more dramatic: he finds himself in the very throne room of God.

[1] In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and
the hem of his robe filled the temple. [2] Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six
wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two
they flew. [3] And one called to another and said,

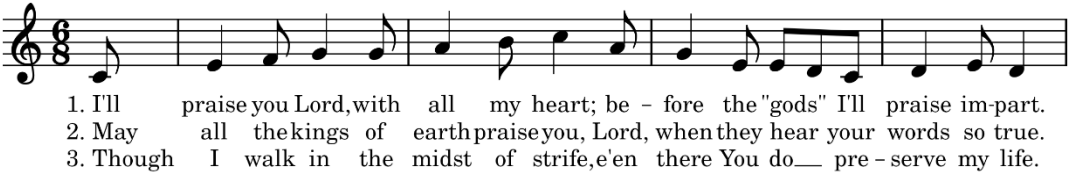
"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."
4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5 And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"
6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" [9 And he said, "Go and say to this people:
'Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.'
10 Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears, and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes
and listen with their ears
and comprehend with their minds
and turn and be healed."
11 Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said,
"Until cities lie waste without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
12 until the LORD sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
13 Even if a tenth part remain in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing
when it is felled." (The holy seed is its stump.)

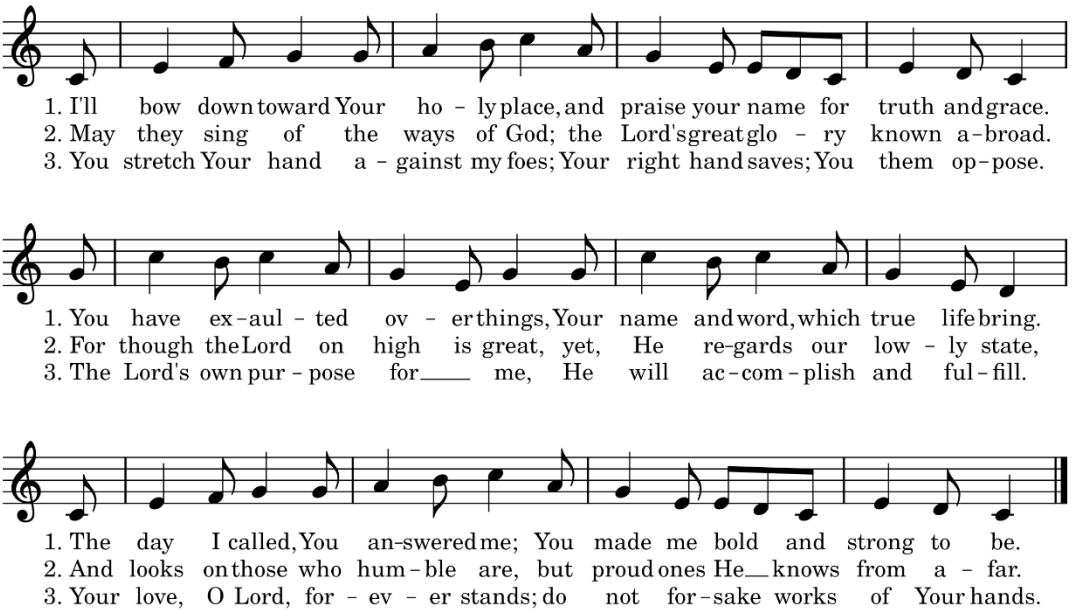
L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 138

(sung to the tune Sweethour)

This psalm could be Isaiah's song: being mortal and sinful does not prevent him from being God's instrument in proclamation.





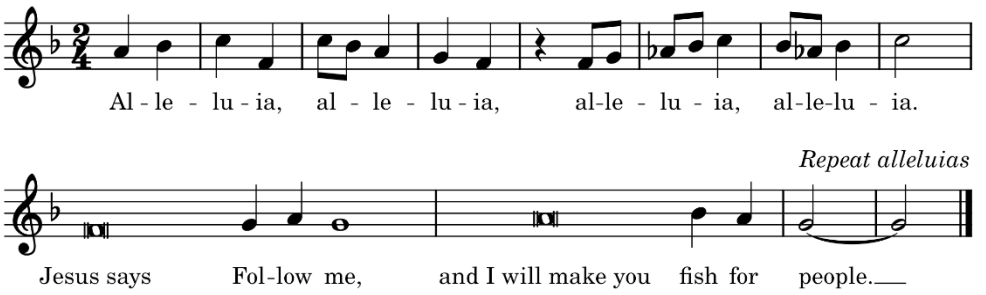
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

During this season we are reading through the last part of 1 Corinthians. One of the reasons Paul is writing to the Christians at Corinth is that some had decided that fully mature Christians (like them) are not only spiritually gifted in superior ways, but also immortal. According to them, only inferior Christians would die. Here Paul quotes one of the earliest Christian creeds about the Resurrection, but adds that even some of those who saw the Resurrected Christ (fully mature Christians if anyone was) have died.

[1] Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to
you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, [2] through which also you are being
saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to
believe in vain.

[3] For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died
for our sins in accordance with the scriptures [4] and that he was buried and that he was
raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures [5] and that he appeared to Cephas,
then to the twelve. [6] Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at
one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. [7] Then he appeared to James,
then to all the apostles. [8] Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. [9] For I
am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church
of God. [10] But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in
vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of
God that is with me. [11] Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

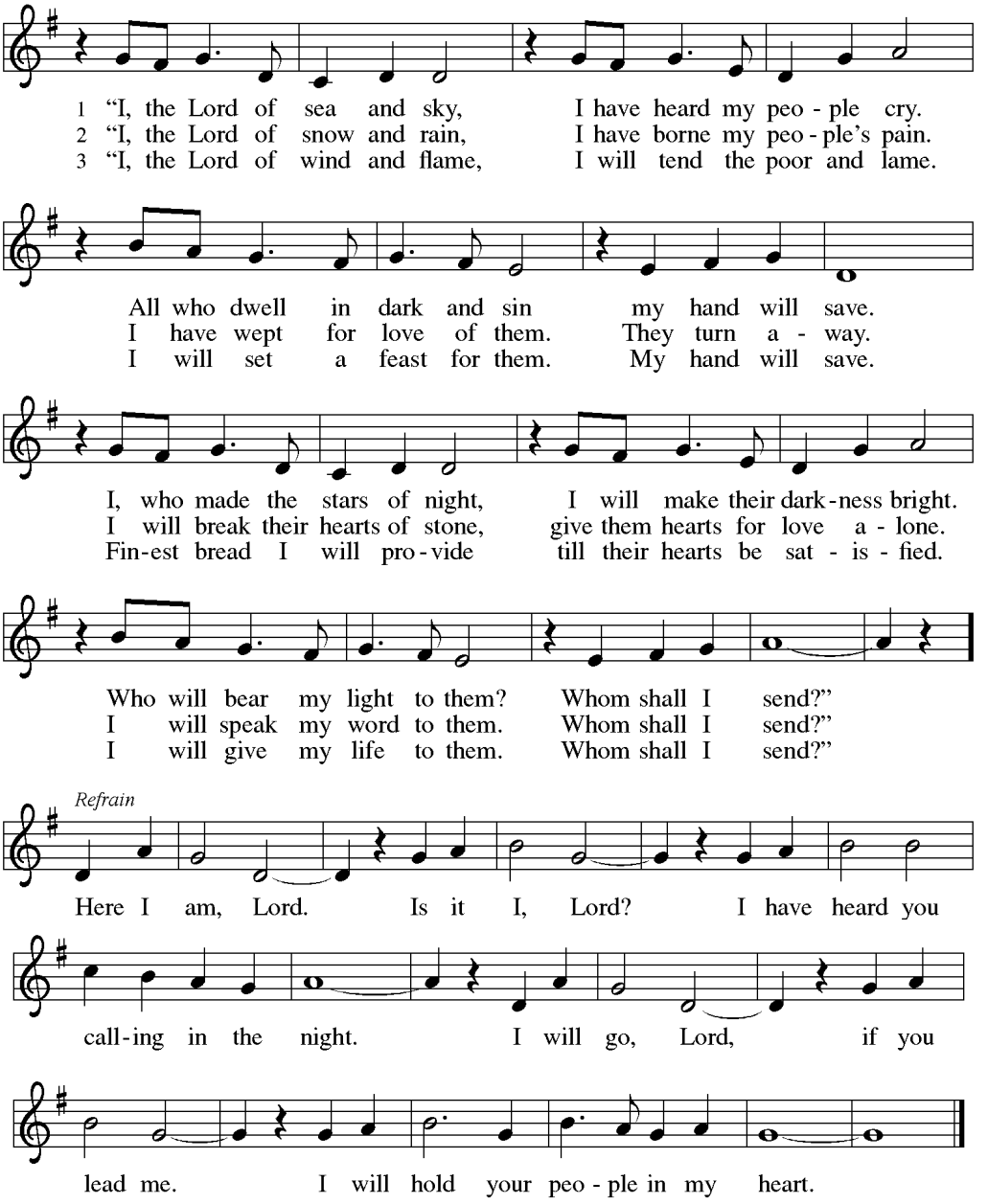
At this point in the Gospel, Jesus is already a popular teacher and healer in Galilee. In fact, he has healed Simon Peter's mother, so the fisherman was already known to him. But until now there has been no mention of particular followers.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the fifth chapter. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing
in on him to hear the word of God, 2 he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the
fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the
boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore.
Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he
said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." 5 Simon
answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I
will let down the nets." 6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets
were beginning to burst. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help
them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8 But when Simon
Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful
man!" 9 For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had
taken, 10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.
Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching
people." 11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed
him.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Here I Am, Lord"* (ELW 574)

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946
Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

*Apostles Creed

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 Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind (*especially*). Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace, **A: hear our prayer.**

L: Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Guide Susquehanna University's search for a chaplain. Grant clarity and patience to the committee and prepare the heart of the one called to serve. May they inspire faith, foster belonging, and lead with love and justice. God of Grace. **A: hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith especially Chuck McMullen and Martha Wills. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace, **A: hear our prayer.**

L: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **A: Amen.**

*Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

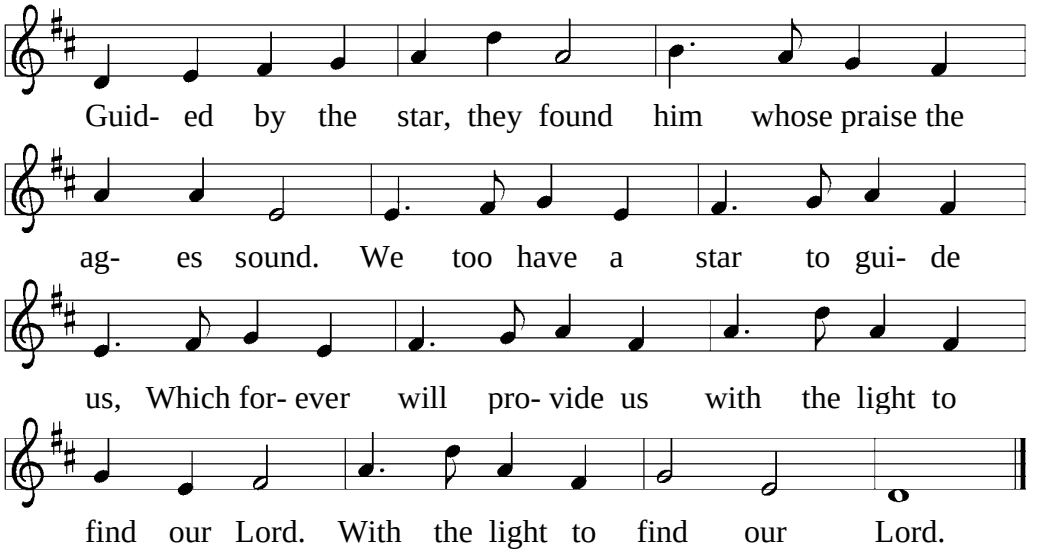
Meal

Offering

*Offerings can be made online at **stpaulpgm.org/give**, mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.*

Musical Offering

*Offertory: *"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky" vs. 5* *(ELW 301)*



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.
Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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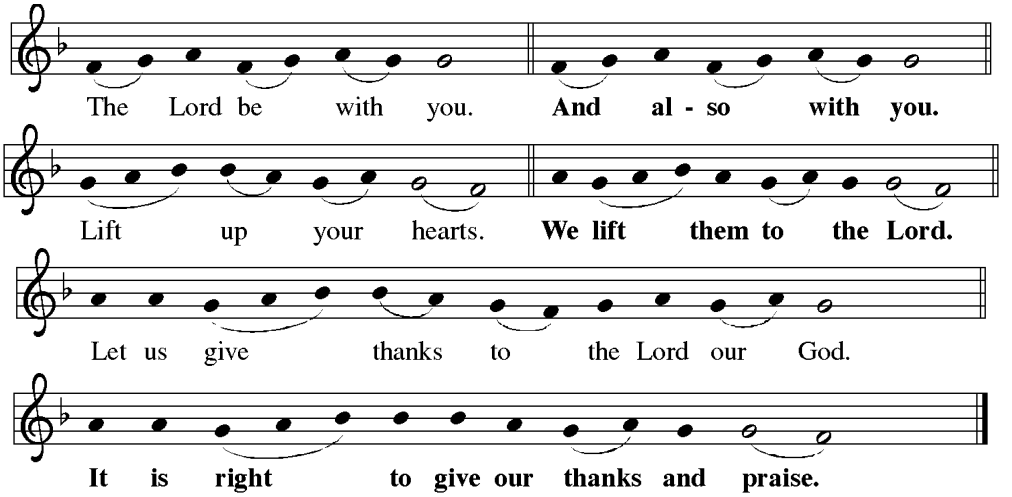
*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

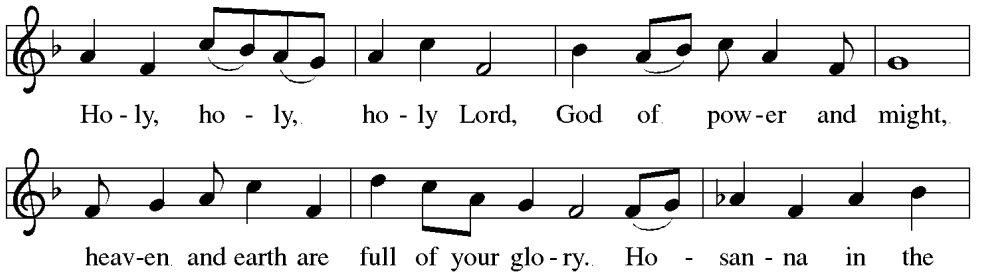
* DIALOGUE

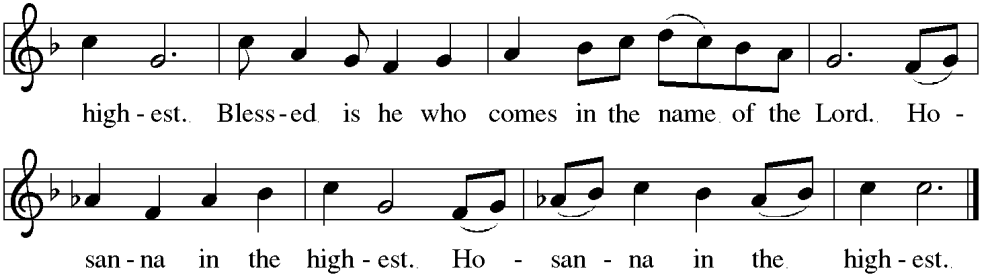


*PREFACE

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:

*SANCTUS





*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: P: Blessed are you, O holy God:
you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Until his great Epiphany, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising, and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.
A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

A: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

A: Amen

*Lord's Prayer

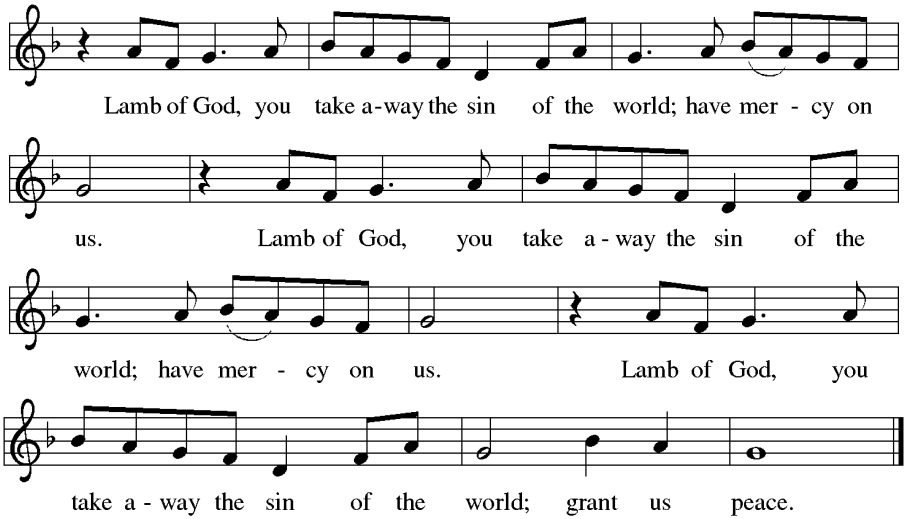
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

*Lamb of God



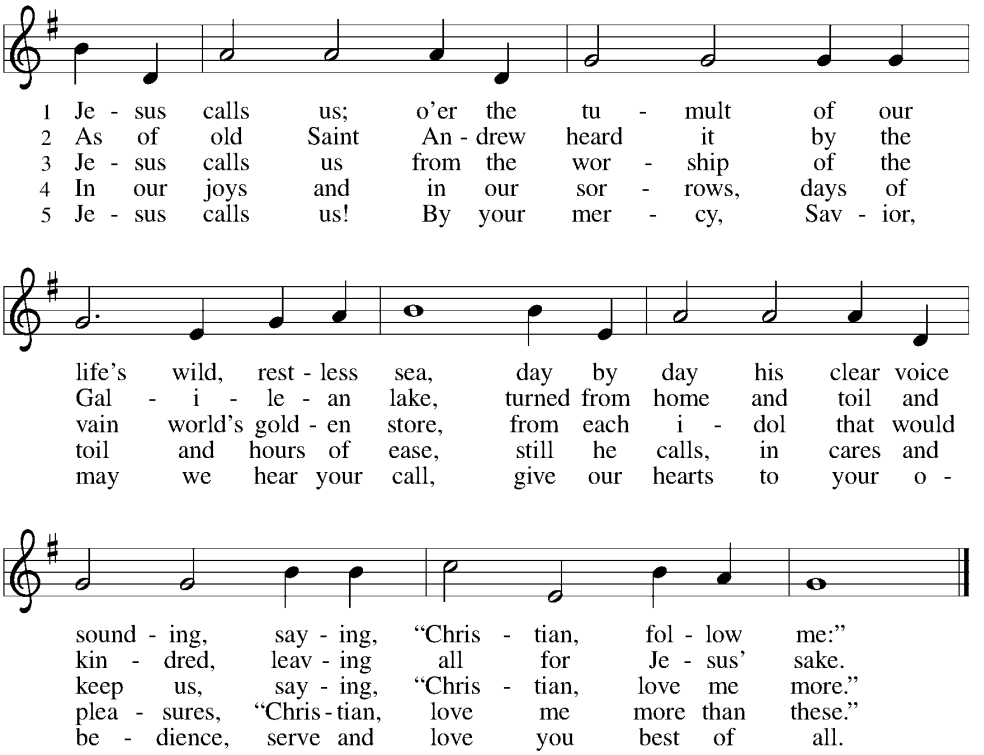
A note on Communion Wafers

To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain 15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.

If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Communion

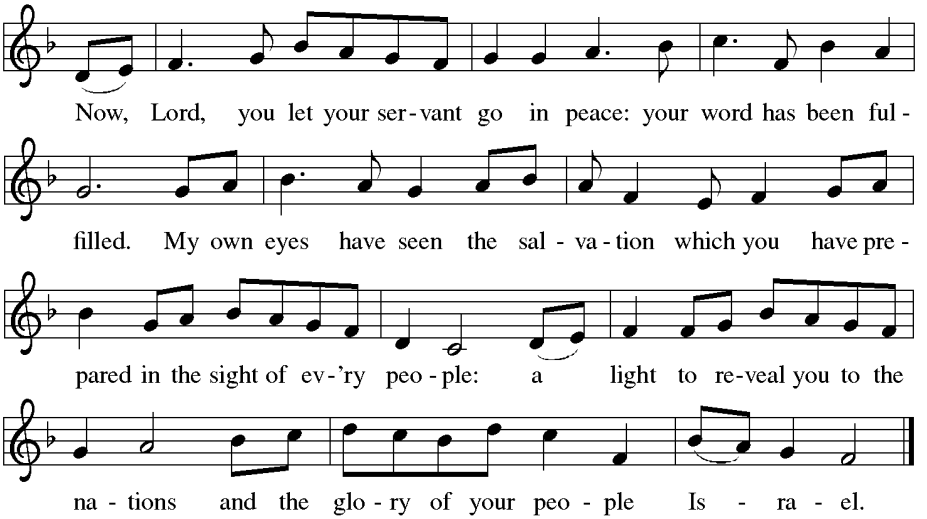
P: The body of Christ, given for you. L: The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

Communion Hymn: *"Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"* *(ELW 696)*

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

*Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in grace.
A: Amen.

*Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis* (*Now, Lord)*



*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **A: Amen.**

Sending

*Sending of Communion

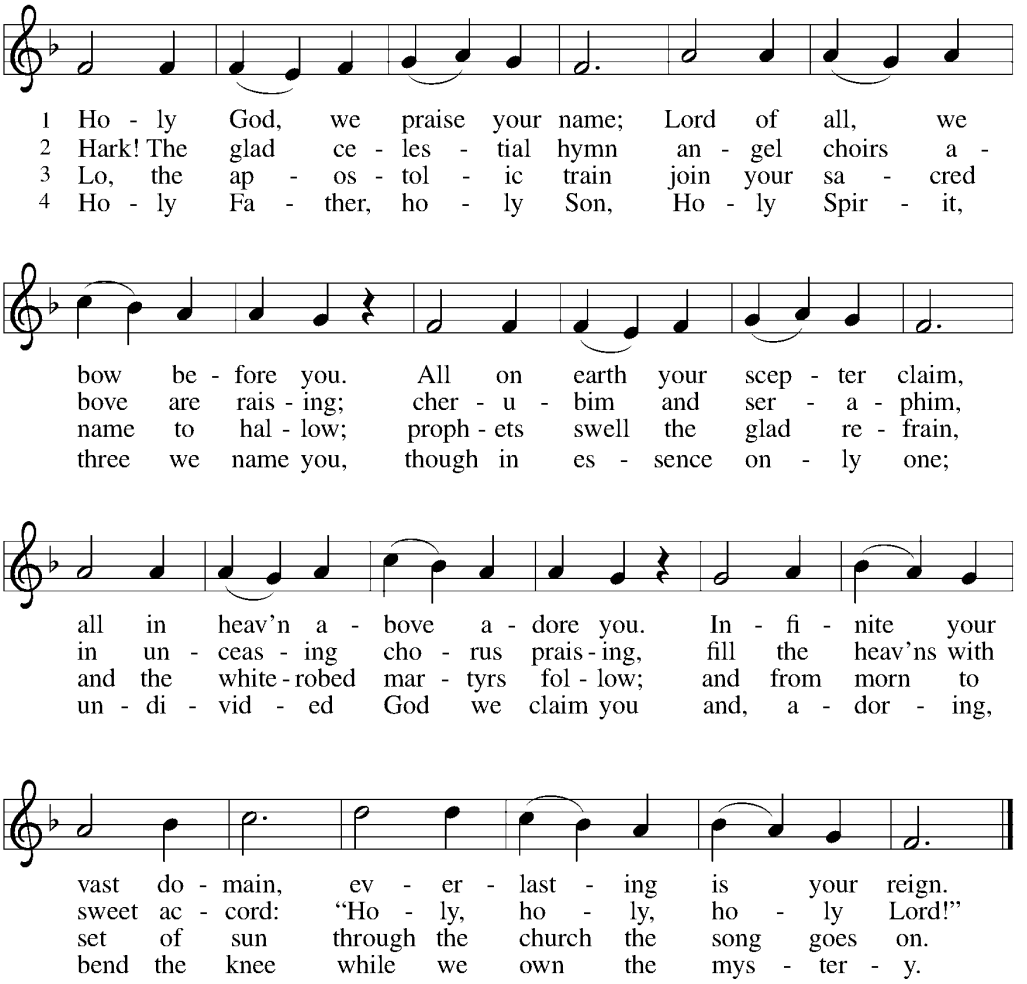
Announcements

You may be seated.

*Charge to the People

*Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: *"Holy God, We Praise Your Name!"* *(ELW 414)*

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope. **A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Living Lutheran

Sign up for the print magazine

We heard you—and listened. We have found a way to bring back the magazine's print publication in a quarterly fashion. Each issue (spring, summer, winter and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community. The cost for one year will be $19.95 for an individual subscription and $17 per year for a congregation group subscription.

You can sign up today by going to livinglutheran.org/subscribe/ to let us know you would like to subscribe for the magazine. You will be invoiced for your subscription before March 2025. If your subscription had not lapsed at the end of 2023, you will receive a renewal notice when your subscription expires. If you have questions, please contact us at livinglutheran@elca.org or call us at 800-638-3522.

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, February 9
Isaiah 6:1-8[9-13]
Psalm 138 (2)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Monday, February 10
Judges 5:1-11
1 Corinthians 14:26-40
Psalm 115

Tuesday, February 11
1 Samuel 9:15—10:1b
1 Timothy 3:1-9
Psalm 115

Wednesday, February 12
Isaiah 8:1-15
Luke 5:27-32
Psalm 115

Thursday, February13
Jeremiah 13:12-19
Acts 13:26-34
Psalm 1

Friday, February 14
Jeremiah 13:20-27
1 Peter 1:17—2:1
Psalm 1

Saturday, February 15
Jeremiah 17: 1-4
Luke 11:24-28
Psalm 1

ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....Eleanor Bird
Pianist..... Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Karen Magnuson
Reader.....Morgen Hummel

About St. Paul

Purpose

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

Mission

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

Core Values

Faith ❧ Compassion ❧ Generosity ❧ Community

Our Bible Verses

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

Land Acknowledgement

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

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