

**Sunday, October 5, 2025**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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## WELCOME

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.**

**Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

**ELW 733**

## 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.**

# KYRIE



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for

hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out . . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, . . . . . for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord,

let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

### **Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup> The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. <sup>2</sup> O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? <sup>3</sup> Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. <sup>4</sup> So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted. <sup>2:1</sup> I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. <sup>2</sup> Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. <sup>3</sup> For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. <sup>4</sup> Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 37:1-9

**read responsively**

**REFRAIN: Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord. (Ps. 37:5)**

<sup>1</sup> Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup> **For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

<sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup> **Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart's desire. R**

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do.

<sup>6</sup> **The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup> **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup> For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land. **R**

## **SECOND READING**

## **2 Timothy 1:1-14**

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup> I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be

filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, <sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. <sup>8</sup> Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, <sup>9</sup> who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup> but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup> For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup> and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup> Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia. The word of the Lord endures forever.\* That word is the good news that was announced to you. Alleluia. (1 Pet. 1:25)*

## **GOSPEL**

**Luke 17:5-10**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup> The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup> “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup> Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup> Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

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

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

### **SERMON**

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**What The World Is Like**

**ACS 1047**

### **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**

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

*A brief silence.*

O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence (*especially*). God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need (*especially*). Help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give



growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray that you will continue to open doors that allow food, life essentials and medical supplies provided by Lutheran World Relief to reach those in need. Move us to support their efforts to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to heal the sick and to shelter the homeless wherever those needs exist. Bring your peace to all areas of conflict, so that your children can become whole. God of grace, **receive our prayer**

God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*). May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms, like Lois and Eunice, shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

*You may share a sign of peace with your neighbor.*

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING**

*Thank you for your continued support with your offering. Offering may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, by mail or our on-line giving.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### *Come To The Table*



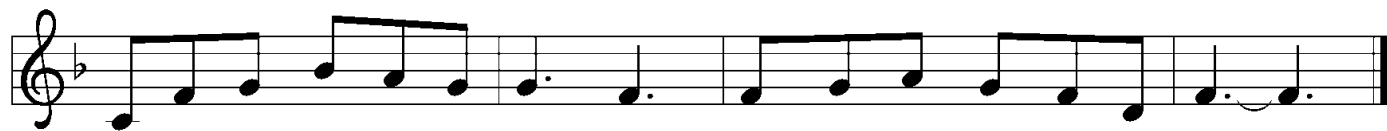
Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### 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.**

## PREFACE

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

*The assembly may be seated. Communion will be served at the altar rail. Prefilled cups with either wine or grape juice are available.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG   Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing   ELW 545**

## DISMISSAL

We go now to be a light in our community, **to make Christ known to all through nourishing, serving, and faith. Thanks be to God.**

**Pastor**

Rev. Karla S. Leiby

**Director of Music**

William Jacavage

**Greeter**

Trish Long

**Lector**

Julie Shearer

**Acolyte**

Cameron Lehman

**Communion Assistant**

Brenda and David Herbert

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented by Mary Siemsen in memory of my husband, Pete, whose birthday was remembered on October 4<sup>th</sup> and in honor of Mary and Regis Courtemanche, whose anniversary was celebrated on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

THE BULLETINS and CANDLES are presented in honor of Richard Berry III whose birthday was celebrated yesterday by Trudy and Zach Baker.

This month's Special Pink envelope is designated for the fire department.

Synod Youth Event will be held here at St. John's on Sunday, October 12, from 2-4:30 p.m. This is a murder mystery event – join us as we search for “who-dun-it”

Seafarer Satchels *are due back to the church no later than October 26<sup>th</sup>* in order to get them to Synod for transportation to New York. Bags and the list are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Scout fundraisers:

**Marianna's Sub and Pizza Sale** – *Orders will be taken October 5-26. \$10 each. Delivery date will be posted on the order form. Look for the form to be out in the back of the sanctuary on October 5<sup>th</sup>.*

**Butter Braids & Coffee/Tea** – *Orders and money due by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Delivery date is November 12<sup>th</sup> (in time for Thanksgiving)* Frozen pastry and cake rolls, assorted flavors, Coffee is both ground, k-cups, and whole bean. Tea is artisan loose tea. Forms on the back table.

**Country Meat Sticks** – 2 for \$3. Form is in the back of the sanctuary. Flavors include -0 Sweet BBQ, Sweet Annie Brown, Bold Teriyaki, Hot Cajun, Sweet Maple Bacon, Original Smoked Hickory, Pepperoni, #9, Sweet Fire. *Money and orders are due October 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

**Needed** – 1 Sunday School teachers for the children's class. This team would teach the second Sunday of each month beginning in October. If you are interested, please see Pastor Karla or call the church office.

Childrens and Adult Sunday School Classes begins today following worship service. Everyone is invited to attend.

**THEME BASKET IDEAS:** still available for the Basket Raffle for the Christmas Bazaar in December

- Italian (pasta pot, pastas, sauces, strainer)
- Family Fun Night – assorted board games

Let us know if you are willing to donate the items for any of the baskets below/have a theme idea of your own, *or* would like to donate the money and we'll do the shopping. Money and any donated items need to be at the church by November 2<sup>nd</sup>. You don't need to wrap anything – we'll take care of that for you! If you have any questions, please contact Karen Smeltz @ 570-490-1558 or Robin Heintzelman @ 570-847-2048.

The Quiet Cash/Noisy Coin collection is designated for Camp Mount Luther. Donations can be placed in the yellow bucket in the rear of the sanctuary.

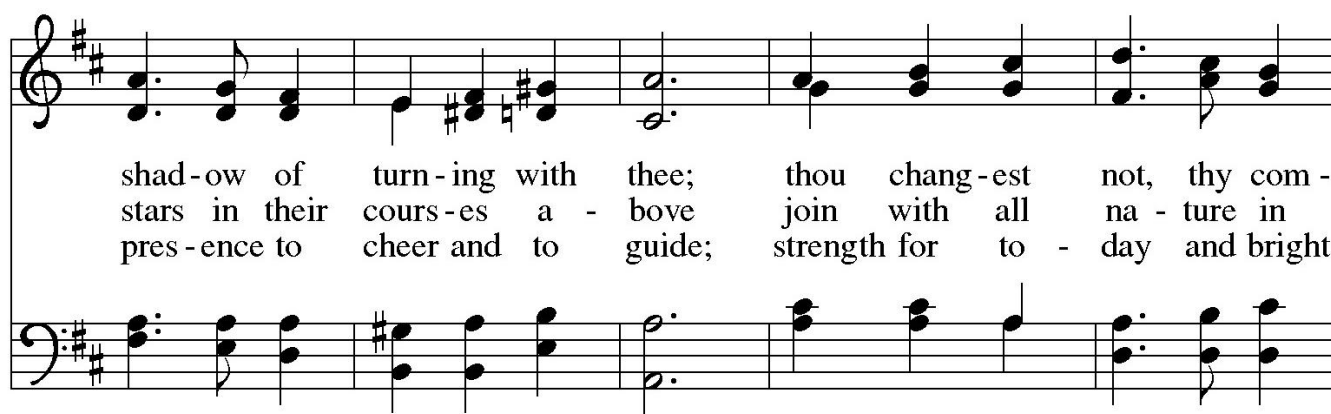
**PRAYERS:** Lenette Pehowic; George Rebuck; Lou VanGuilder, Mike Payne; Doug Manning; Deb Shearer-Shutt; Brenda Drachler; Jayne Burns  
**HOMEBOUND** Kathryn Lebo; Jason Gulden; Helen Snyder; June Diehl; Mary Rogers; Nevin Brungard; Elaine Kohl; Nancy Hendricks; William Wagner; Betty Yerg; Jane Ressler; David Bartholomew; Marti Row



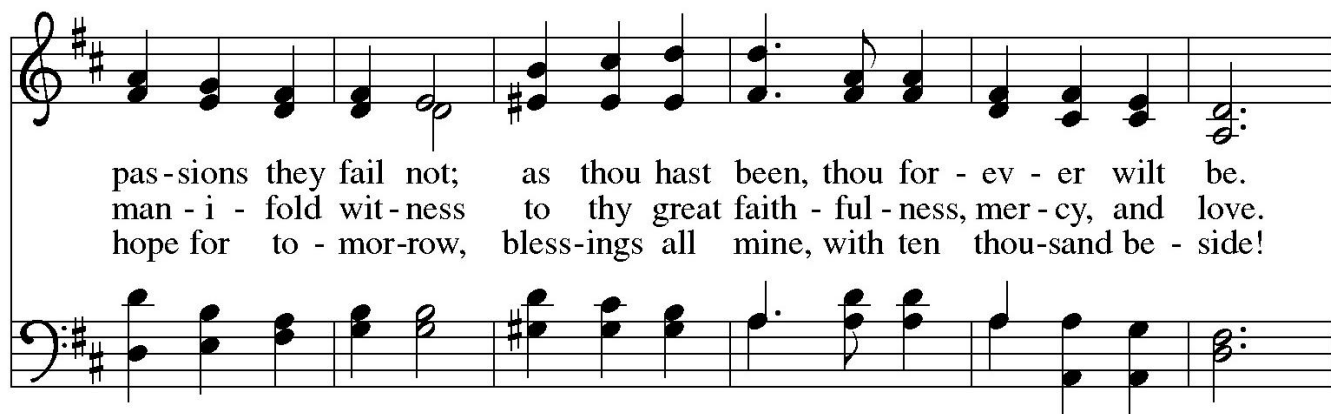
# Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

This block contains the first line of a musical score. It features a treble and bass staff in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first line of the melody consists of eight measures, ending with a half note. The bass line also consists of eight measures, ending with a half note. The lyrics are: "morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy".

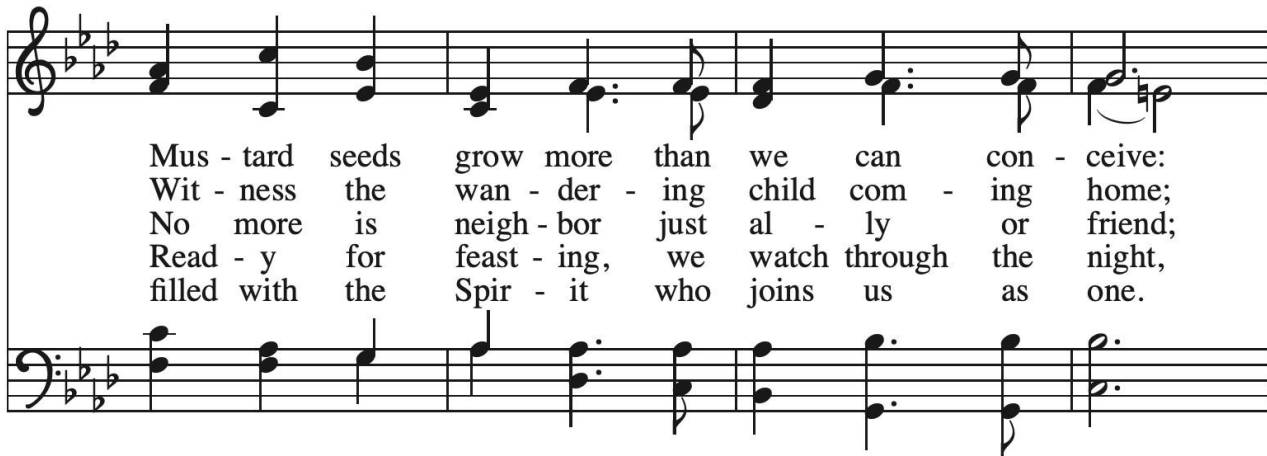
hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

This block contains the second line of a musical score. It features a treble and bass staff in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves. The second line of the melody consists of eight measures, ending with a half note. The bass line also consists of eight measures, ending with a half note. The lyrics are: "hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.".

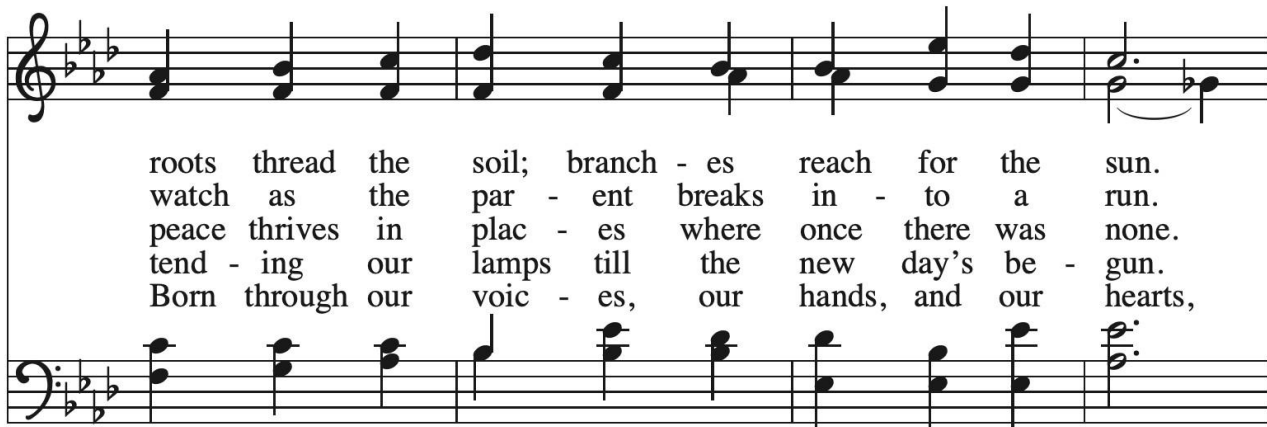
# What Is the World Like



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?  
5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:  
Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;  
No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;  
Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,  
filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.



roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.  
watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.  
peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.  
tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.  
Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,



This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.  
This is how God longs for us when we roam.  
This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.  
This is how God read - ies us for the light.  
this is a new world where God's will is done.

# Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in three stanzas, with the first two stanzas having three verses each. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.  
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.  
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.