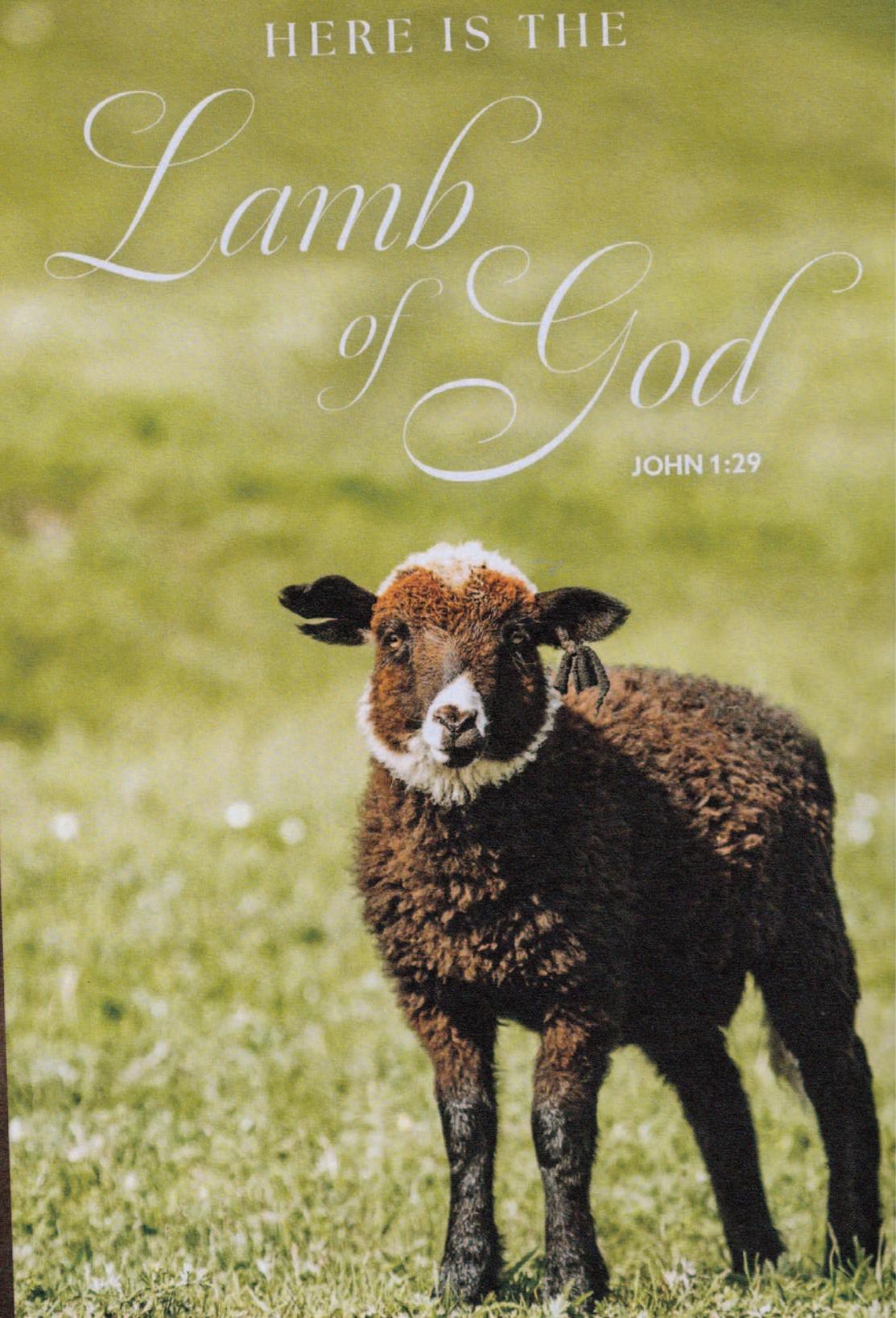


St. John Lutheran Church



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20260118-EP12 ITEM014736 ELCA-K

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY • JANUARY 18, 2026

Reverent Reflection

Prelude

Welcome

Church Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C. **Amen.**

P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. **Amen.**

P. Most merciful God,

C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

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 sin. 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.

C. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Arise, Your Light Has Come (#314)

Apostolic Greeting

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

C. **And also with you.**

Kyrie p. 147

P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

Canticle p. 149

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**
- Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**
- This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

- ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.
- ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God."
- ⁵ And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—
- ⁶ he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
- ⁷ Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-11

Response: "I love to do your will, O my God."

- ¹ I waited patiently upon the Lord, who stooped to me and heard my cry.
- ² **The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**
- ³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

⁴ **Happy are they who trust in the Lord! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies. R**

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required. R**

⁷ And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸ **'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'**

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

¹⁰ **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹ You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe. R

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,

⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 1:29-42

The holy gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel!" ³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Children's Sermon

Anthem

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

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters (current situations may be named).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness (especially). Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community (local ministries may be named). Kindle in us a desire to help one another.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Great Thanksgiving p. 152

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**
- P. Lift up your hearts.
- C. **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface p. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153

Lord's Prayer

Let us 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion p. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns: Spirit of Gentleness (#396)
Jesus Calls O'er The Tumult (#696)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn: We Are Marching In The Light (#866)

Dismissal

Postlude

ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th

Dedicated by the Kuhn Family in memory of Jack and Kay Crane.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
	11:15 am	Youth Chime/Vocal Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir (<i>every other Sunday</i>)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Sunday, January 18th	2:00 pm	Ministerium Workshop: Faith250 Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, January 21st	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Sunday, January 25th	After Worship Service	St. John's Church Annual Congregational Meeting
Tuesday, February 3rd	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Monday, February 9th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Wednesday, February 11th	2:00 pm	Valentine's Tea in the Parish House Tea Room
Saturday, February 14th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, February 18th	Noon	Ash Wednesday – Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday, February 18th	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Wednesday February 25th	6:00 pm	Lenten Soup Supper in the Ed. Building

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Tracey Drew	Carl Knopp	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Krystal Booras	Indie Fisher	Eunice Knopp	Erica Polito	Bill Todd
Michael Botti	Rhea Fryor	Donna Leek	Samantha Reed	George Vaneman, Sr.
Brian Byrnes	Bob Garner	Tim McCarthy	Kimberly Rickert	George Van Wagner
Randy Cantoral	Angela Guedes	Joanne McVelli	Ashley Rosser	Beverly Warming
Janet Cappuccio	Stan Harmer	Larry Mirabile	Dorcas Schellhas	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Finn Schureman	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Gladys Sheppard	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Ed Kagen	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	
Marie Lentine Douglas	Tracey Kelly	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please see Pat Reed to make payment.

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.



We are accepting donations of
Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.
Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.

Holy Communion Lutheran Church of Berlin Baby Pantry need:



BABY DIAPERS
(especially larger sizes)

Collection is in the Narthex.

faith250
Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1002 S. Main Street * Williamstown, NJ
Sunday, January 18th • 2:00 PM

faith250 will be 4 workshops hosted and facilitated by different clergy members of the ministerium. It is an American Scripture Project focused on "The Spiritual Side of American Democracy" using sacred, traditional Scripture along side American texts (i.e., The New Colossus, The Declaration of Independence, What to the Slave is the Fourth of July, and America the Beautiful).



GRIEF GATHERING
Wednesday, January 21st
7:00 pm in the Parish House Tea Room
All Are Welcome!

ANNUAL

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

PLEASE JOIN US

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026
after the Worship Service
in the Education Building

*Bible
Study*

Tuesday, February 3rd
7:00 pm
in the Parish House

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG

SM

Spirit of Gentleness

396

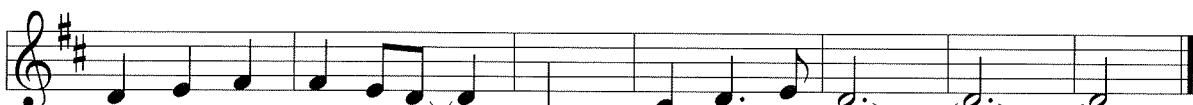
Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call-ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest-less-ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - - sions, our men clear their eyes.



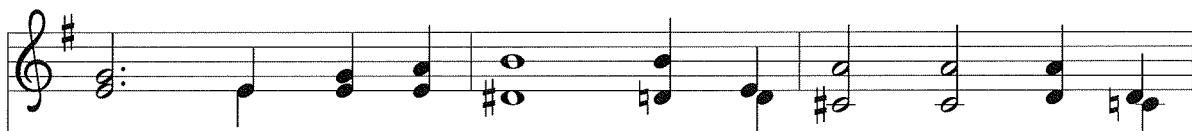
"A - - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

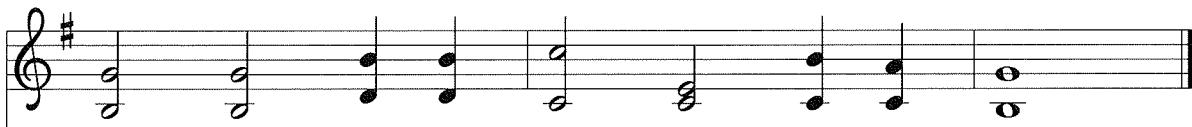
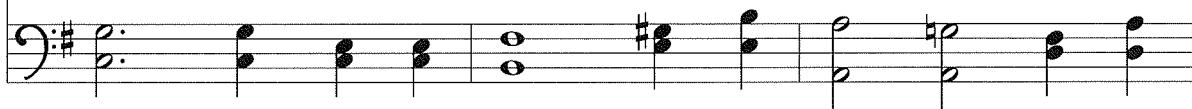
696



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.



Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

We Are Marching in the Light

866

Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

11

12

3/4

3/8

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____
We are march-ing _____

*Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing,*

ham - ba,
march - ing,

A musical staff in bass clef and one sharp key signature. The bass line consists of eighth-note pairs on the A and C strings. The treble line consists of sixteenth-note patterns on the G and B strings, with a fermata over the last group of notes.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

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- Scan the QR code to get started
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ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ST. JOHN'S STAFF

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Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver

Administrative Coordinator: Pat Reed

Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher

Head Usher: Ted Adams

Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith

Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver

Sexton: Betsey Eley

Webmaster: Tom Schofield

Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher