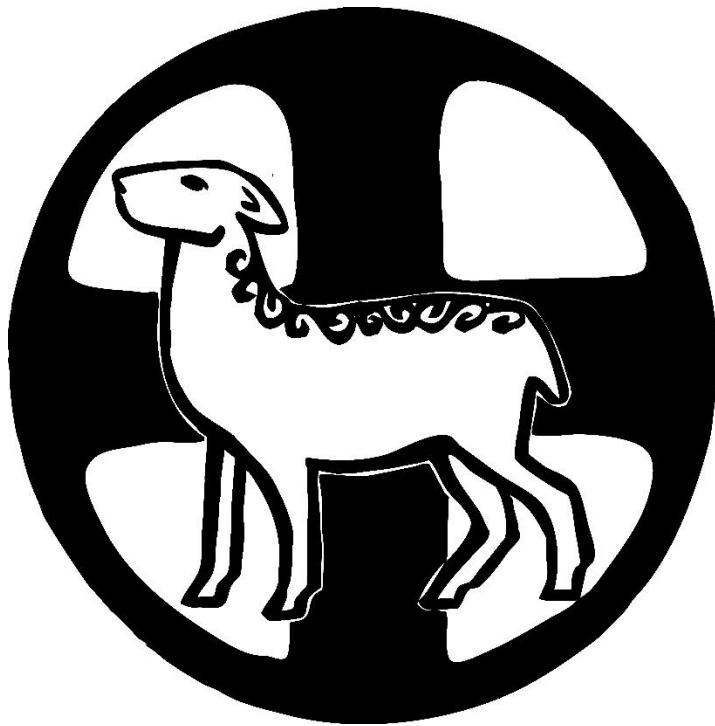


Order of Worship
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 18, 2026



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
745 S. Ingraham Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801
863-686-5585

The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz, Pastor
Email: pastor@gracelakeland.com
www.gracelakeland.com

Second Sunday after Epiphany. Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

*=ALL STAND for this part of worship

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* arr. H. Alexander Matthews

*CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger 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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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

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

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW 314



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.

***APOSTOLIC 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.

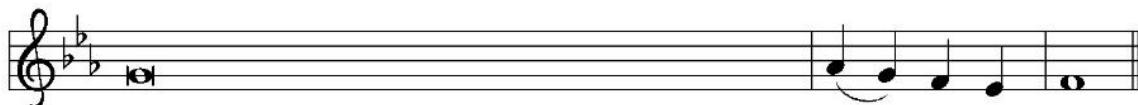
* KYRIE (*Continued on next page*)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



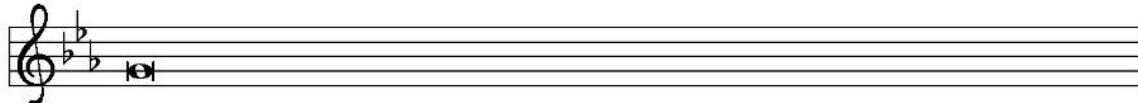
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



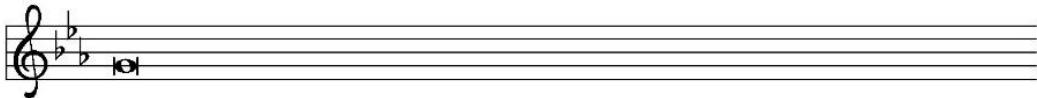
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

***THIS IS THE FEAST** (*Continued on next pages*)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.



Refrain



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

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.

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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40:1-11 (We will read the Psalm responsively, by whole verse.)

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.

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.**

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.

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.

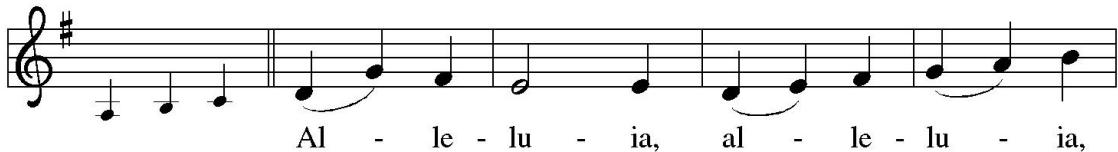
⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We stand for the reading of the Gospel.



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



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

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL:*John 1:29-42**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter:

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**The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz**

Silence is kept for reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAYJesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult*

ELW 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.

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

The following people have been *elected* by the congregation to our church council. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *siblings in Christ* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your Grace Lutheran family, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

**The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly.*

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as *council members and officers* of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

We now profess the faith we share using the words of the 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. 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 for *Mary, Mabel, Doris, June, Ann, Julie, Carol, Anne, Judy, Jeff, Gloria, Brian, James & Grace, Katie, Wil, Amy, Bob & Jane, Scott, Lynda, Ron & Flo, Mac, Monica, Avery, Doris, John, Abby, Mike, Tim, Arleen & Richard, Betty, Linda, Henry, Glenn, Gary, Connie, Greg, Beverly & Ray, Helen & Ron, Phyllis, and Max*. 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, especially VISTE, whom we support this month. Bless and strengthen our church council and council officers as they begin a new year of service to Grace. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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**

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

We Will Praise You

Praetorius

*OFFERING SONG

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW s.181



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING 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.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

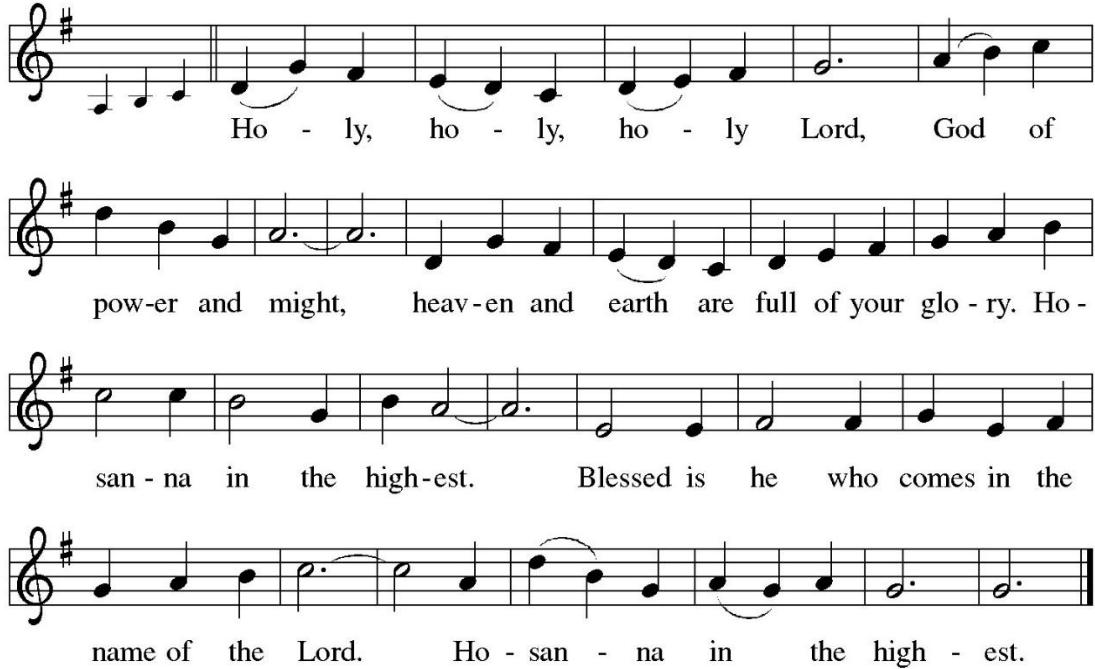
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
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:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

In the night in which he was handed over,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks.
He 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.”

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

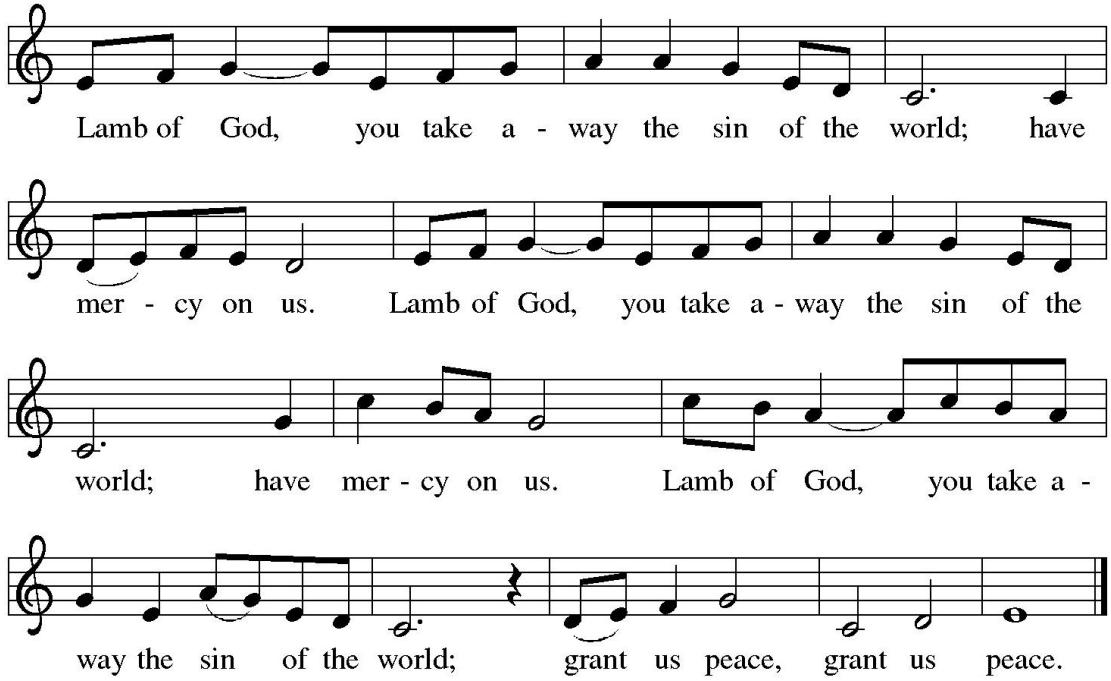
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see. Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

The baptized children of God are invited by the Lord to the Lord's Table where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We commune at the communion rail where we receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Gluten free bread and grape juice are available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and Pastor will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. You may wish to remain at the rail for a time of personal prayer following which you may return to your pew down the side aisle.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN(S)

*Taste and See
By Your Hand You Feed Your People
(on the following pages)*

ELW 493

ELW 469

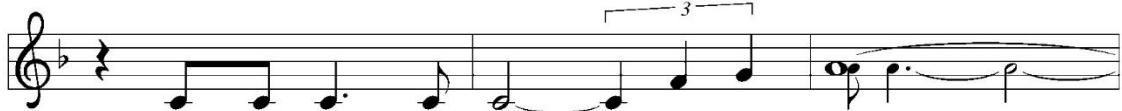


Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,



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

Leader or All



1 I will bless the Lord at all times.
2 Glo - ri - fy the Lord with .. me.
3 Wor-ship . . . the Lord, all you peo-ple.



Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
To - geth - er let us all . . . praise God's name.
You'll want for noth-ing . . . if you ask.



my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord;
I called the Lord, . . . who an - swered me;
Taste and see . . . that the Lord is good;



Refrain

for God has been so good to me.
from all my trou - bles I was set free.
in God we need put all our trust.



- 1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
- 2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
- 3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis-dom sat - is - fy our deep-est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow-ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re-deemed, re - stored.

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

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 HYMN**

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

ELW 548

1. Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,
 2. Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low,
 3. Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture,
 4. Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;

from this meal of love and grace;
 af ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;
 God has called us to re - ceive;
 cour age be our dai - ly breath;

may we through such love en - vi - sion;
 bro ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed;
 pres ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,
 mer cy be our des - ti - na - tion

whose we are, and whose, our praise.
 to re - lease and to con - sole.
 Spir it - ed then let us live.
 from this day and un - to death.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

God, the won - der of our days.
 Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
 Spir it, grace by whom we live.
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

*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.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair

John Dunstable

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Agincourt Hymn, (Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair), Tune: English ballad, 15th cent. Attr. John Dunstable, c.1390-1453. In "Treasury of Early Organ Music", ed. E. Power Biggs, 1906-1977. Pub. Mercury Music Corporation, admin Theodore Presser Company. Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-722274. All rights reserved.

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