



**Sunday, May 10, 2026**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
300 Queen Street  
Northumberland, PA 17857  
570-473-3770  
sjelc300@ptd.net**

## WELCOME

## GATHERING

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

## THANKSGIVING OF BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that  
nourish us. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of  
life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our  
journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you. **You  
guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG    Come Thou Almighty King    ELW 408

### 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.**

### CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

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

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Acts 17:22-31**

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to

inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 66:8-20**

read responsively

**REFRAIN:** *Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)*

<sup>8</sup> Bless our | God, you peoples; let the sound of | praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our | feet to slip. R**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have | tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water, but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house | with burnt offerings and will pay | you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup> those that I promised | with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.

**<sup>15</sup> I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats. R**

<sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you | who believe, and I will tell you what God has | done for me.

**<sup>17</sup> I called out to God | with my mouth, and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil | in my heart, the Lord would | not have heard me;

**<sup>19</sup> but in truth | God has heard me and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing | love from me. **R**

## **SECOND LESSON**

## **1 Peter 3:13-22**

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as

an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia. Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,\* and we will come to them and make our<sup>†</sup> home with them. Alleluia. (John 14:23)*

## **GOSPEL**

**John 14:15-21**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Loving Spirit**

**ELW 397**

### **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**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **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**

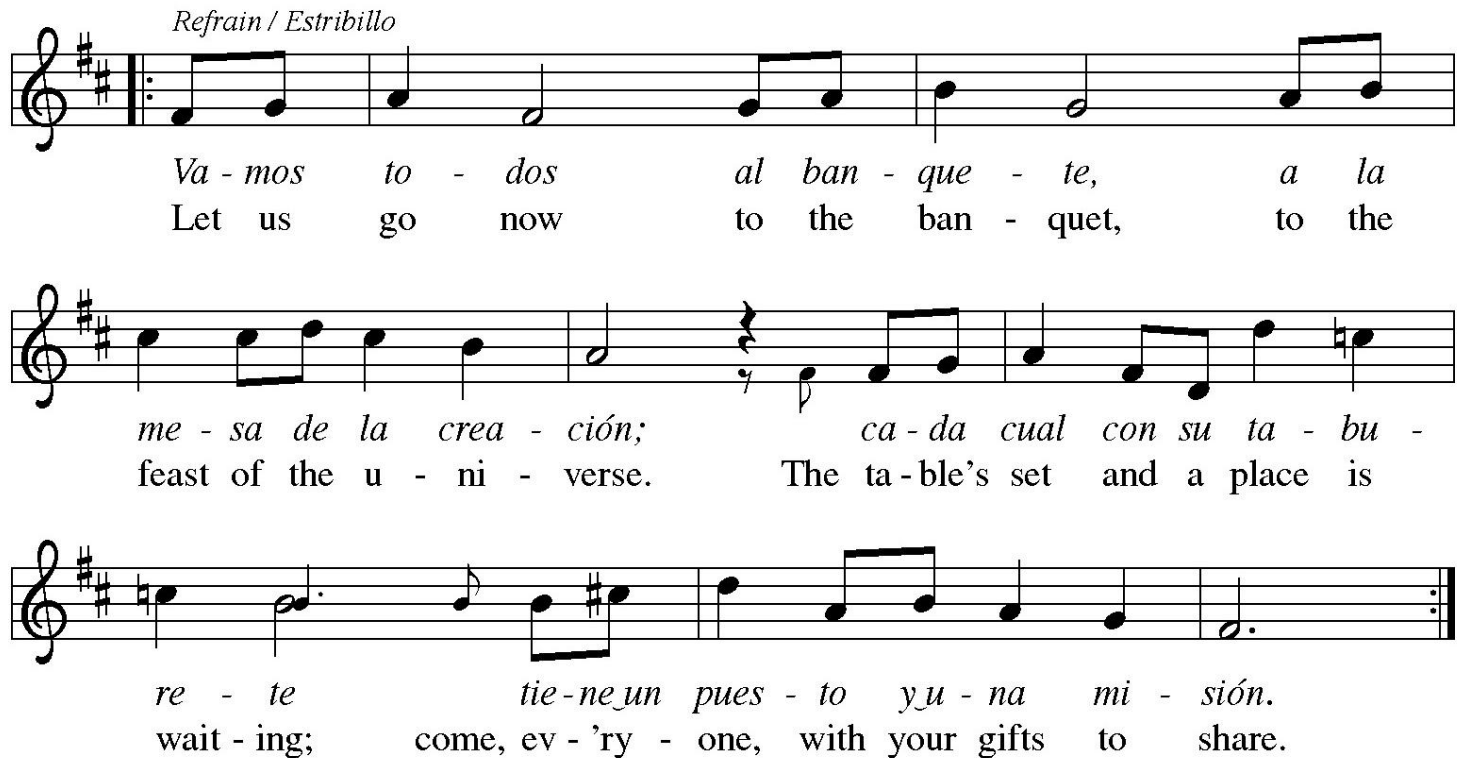
## **OFFERING**

*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

### Let Us Go Now to the Banquet *Vamos todos al banquete*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the

me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is

re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.  
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

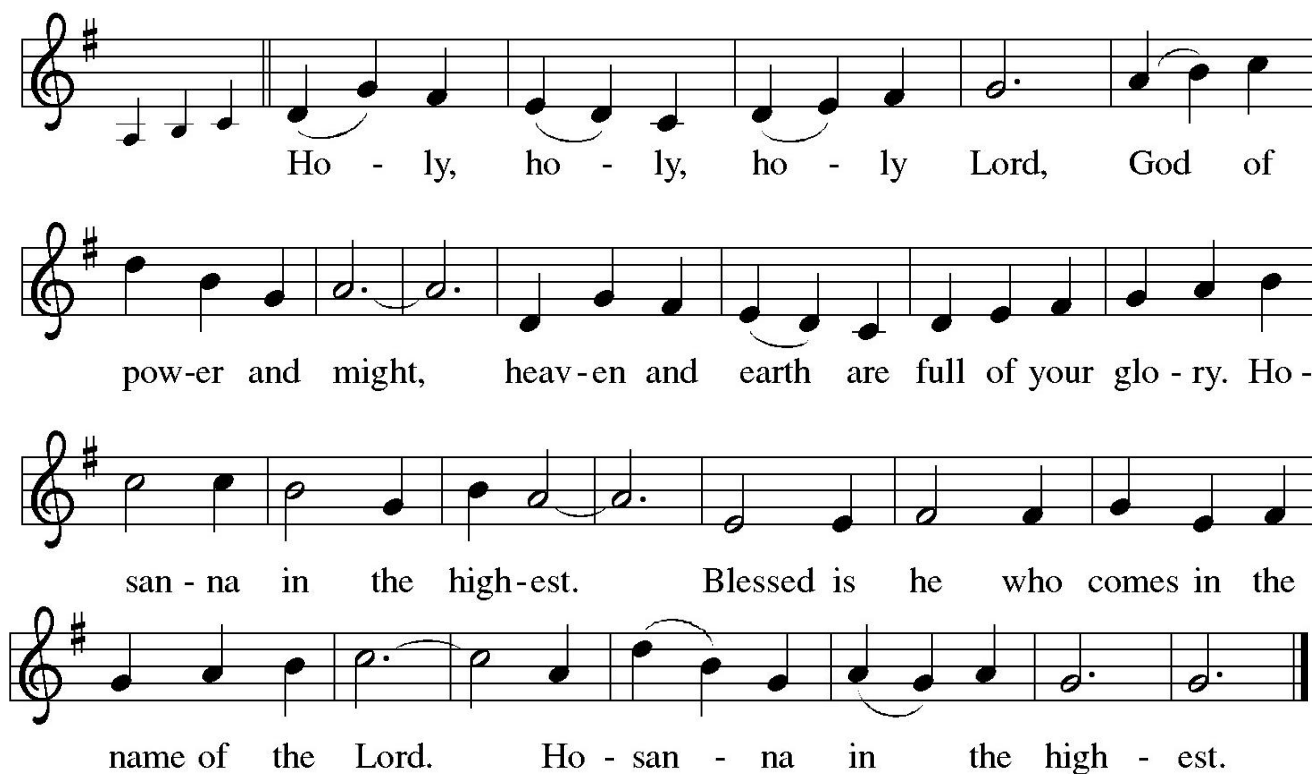
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen, amen, 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**

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

*The assembly may be seated. Communion will be served at the altar rail.  
Wine or grape juice is available.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

**O Zion Haste**

**ELW 668**

## **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**

Robin Heintzeman

### **Lector**

Mike Erdley

### **Acolyte**

Paige Billman

### **Communion Assistant**

Pat Propst

THE CANDLES are presented by Barb Moyer in honor of and in memory of all mothers.

Happy Mother's Day to all our caring and nurturing women of St. John's

Camp Mount Luther will be holding a Work Day on Saturday, May 16th beginning at 9 am to get camp ready for summer! There will be projects for all ages and abilities. Be sure to register to RSVP for you/your family and be included in the lunch count. For additional information call 570-922-1587 or email [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org).

Geranium order forms are located on the table in the back. Cost is \$4.25 each. Deadline to order is today. Pentecost will be observed on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

This month's Special Pink Envelope is designated for Camp Mount Luther.

The Noisy Coin/Quiet Cash collection April through June is designated to K9 Hero to Haven in Danville, for rehoming service dogs.

**PRAYERS:** Travis Shellenberger; Sue Kurtz; Robert Snyder Jr.; Theo Light; Shirley Leiby

**HOMEBOUND and CONTINUED PRAYERS:** Mary Rogers; Barb Eisley; Jason Gulden; Helen Snyder; June Diehl; Nevin Brungard; Elaine Kohl; Nancy Hendricks; Betty Yerg; Jane Ressler; Bill Wagner; David Bartholomew; Shirley Leiby; Marti Row

# Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;  
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;  
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear  
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be

help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -  
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy  
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in  
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.  
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

# Loving Spirit



1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—  
2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,  
3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,  
4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:  
5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.  
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.  
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.  
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.  
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version

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# O Zion, Haste

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion  
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;  
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;  
make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion  
let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.  
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.  
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

*Refrain*

Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.