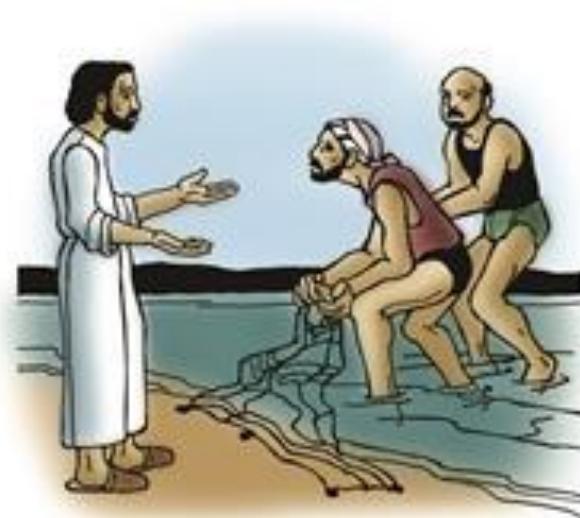


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
201-836-0994
THE REV. PEGGY NIEDERER – PASTOR
201-403-4341
AIZHAN SOLTANOVA – ORGANIST & CANTOR

**THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 25, 2026**



Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

VISIT US AT:
WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG
and on Facebook

Welcome to worship!
Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.

PRELUDE: *Voluntary on “Wareham”* *Robert Lind*

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

***Please stand and face the baptismal font
near the entrance of the church.
All may make the sign of the cross as Pastor begins:***

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, [☩] one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C Amen.

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty God, lover of justice,
C **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.

P 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 Holy Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C Amen.

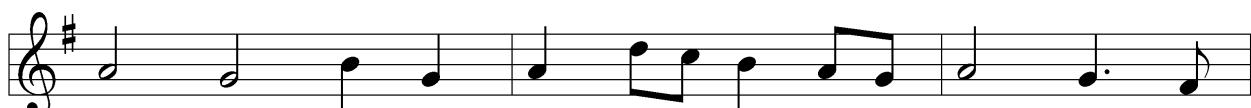
ENTRANCE HYMN

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

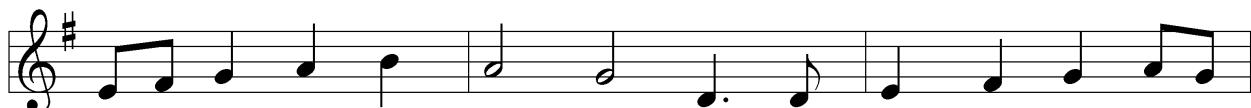
LBW 248



1 Dear-est Je - sus, at your word we have come a - gain to
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark-ness
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of light from God pro -
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and ad - o -



hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in
 shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night, fill - ing
 ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light; help our
 ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most: your blest



glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is - es here
 us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and all good
 hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and songs may
 gos - pel's con - so - la - tion, while we here on earth a -



giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - - en.
 liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - - ing.
 please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

P Arise, shine, for your light has come. Alleluia, alleluia!
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

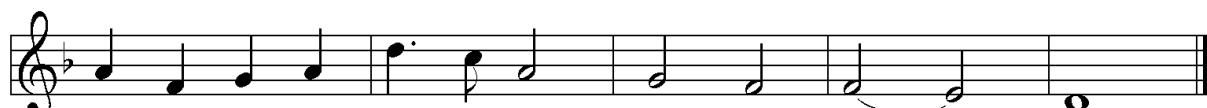
WOV, Setting 5



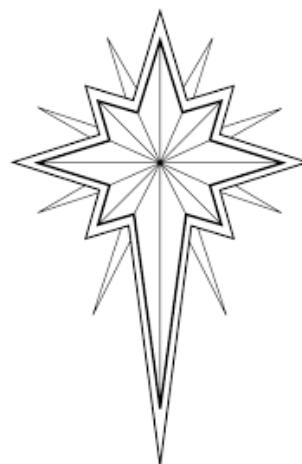
A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

WOW, Setting 5



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



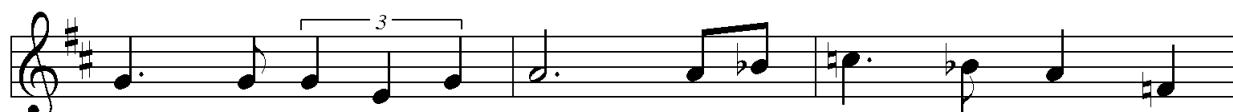
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

C Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
II
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

 Spir- it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther, A - men.

C Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,

 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you,
P Let us pray.
P Lord God, your loving kindness always does before us and follows after us.
 Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that
 come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

A A reading from Isaiah, the 9th chapter.

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A The word of God. The Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

READ RESPONSIVELY

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

 The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
 that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
 to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**
 Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;
 I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
 have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”**
 Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
 Cast me not away—you have been my helper;
 forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

A A reading from 1st Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A The word of God. The Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 168

ALL SING:



Music: Plainsong mode VI

Cantor's Verse

Jesus preached the good news ¹ of the kingdom*
and cured every sickness a- ¹ mong the people.. (Matt. 4:23)

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELIAS.

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Peggy Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore

WOV 784



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo
nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.
ask - ing for me to fol - low.
fish nets and will for work - ing.
will - ing to go on lov - ing.
Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind-ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom-bre. En la a-re - na he de - ja - do mi
you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a-ban-doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

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Tr. © Editorial Avance Luterano

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

P The following persons having been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership and are asked to come to the front of the church as their names are read:

CHURCH COUNCIL:

Lynn Buckingham
Brendan Wilder
Catherine Keohane
Sue Papera
Julie Buckingham
Erika Ilgenfritz
Fred Lewis
Donna Maxwell
Gisela Schroeder

P In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of the church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith.

St. Paul writes: There are different kinds of Spiritual Gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

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 reflect him in whose name we gather. You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in the community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the harmony and life of this congregation. On behalf of our brothers and sisters in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected? If so, answer: Yes, by the help of God.

Church Council Members: Yes, by the help of God.

P People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Congregation: Yes, by the help of God.

P I now declare you installed as Church Council Members and Officers of this congregation. May God bless you with God's Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.



NICENE CREED

A Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

C **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**



PRAYERS FOR HEALING & RENEWAL

P We give you thanks, O God, source of life and health, for in Jesus you became flesh and came to know the depth of human suffering. You sent the disciples to heal those who were sick.

We ask that you bless us now as we remember our baptism that we may be healed, strengthened, and renewed by the power of your Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross, we proclaim the good news that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ offering ourselves, whatever our sickness of spirit, mind, or body may be, to receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, may you be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of God's Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***Remembering your baptism,
make the sign of the cross on your forehead as Pastor says:***

P Remember your baptism, receive the sign of forgiveness and healing in Christ Jesus by making the sign of the cross on your forehead.

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray.

God of mercy, source of all healing, we give you thanks for your gifts of strength and life, and especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus who is the Christ, the health and salvation of the world.

Help us by your Holy Spirit to feel your healing power in our lives and experience your eternal love through Jesus, the Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**



HEALING HYMN

There Is a Balm in Gilead

WOV 737

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lynn Buckingham

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, which is our home.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Counselor, you provide meaning and purpose to life and faith and make us one in the body of Christ. We pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the New Jersey Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the wider Christian community, our friends from the Light & Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere as they live out their callings to serve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor. We praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this beautiful planet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority that they might be guided by your spirit to inspire justice, humanitarian care, and the sharing of resources with all people regardless of race, gender, age, or nationality. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Healer, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick. We ask that you hold close all who are affected by natural disasters, especially victims of wildfires, atmospheric rivers, mudslides, and floods, and those we pray for in silence or aloud (pause). Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P 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.

C Amen.

PEACE ***Stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.***

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY HYMN**Will You Come and Follow Me****ELW 798**

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
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.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

THE PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

ELW, Setting 4

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

Please kneel or sit.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 in 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**
 Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 Now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this meal, we celebrate the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world!
Taste and see.
Come to the table where all are welcome.

AGNUS DEI

ELW, Setting 4



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.



CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

***Please come forward for Communion,
beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides,
leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.***

***Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the
wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.***

A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.

The center contains purple grape juice.

White wine is in the remainder of the tray.

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.

Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life, are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.

Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in Christ's grace.
C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:

*Nunc Dimitis**LBW, Setting 2*

G Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
 na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
 and will be for - ev - er. A - men

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ⁺ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



Refrain
I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE: *"Wacht Auf" Variations* *Wake Up* *Jacques Berthier*

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO

Sue Papera, Greeter
Jack Martinez - Crucifer
Kaitlin Shinholster, Liturgist & Reader
Lynn Buckingham, Prayers of Intercession
Sue Papera & Erika Ilgenfritz, Altar Care



Via Zoom
Thursday, January 29th, at Noon
"The Star of Bethlehem: The prophesies of Isaiah"
Connection link & readings will be emailed



PRAYERS

Joan Costello (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); **Doris Baumann, Dale Lambson, and Family; Darla Lambson** (leukemia); **Brad Gohmann** (cancer); Zulema's family and friends: **Katie and Surella Borowski; Rose Davis** (cancer); **Marc & Bella Yaffe and Leslyn Cooke; Susan Bethke** (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); **Marion Soohoo** (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Sue Papera's friends and family: **Arlene Rizzo** (cancer) and Arlene's family; **Chris Palmer** (health concerns); **Caleb** (mental health issues); **Jenny L.** (health issues); **Carol Mulvaney** (breast cancer); **Michael Mulvaney** (prostate cancer); **Edward Foley** (back surgery); **Janet Thalmann; Paul Thalmann; Beverly Philip** (severe dementia), **Kathy O'Brien, Bert Maltz** (health concerns), **Michele Rusciano; Al & Mark Crovatto; Anita Bontekoe** (health concerns), **Hana Kim** (health concerns); **Ben Bontekoe** (health concerns); **Fred Lewis** (health concerns); **Mary Ellen's family and friends: Susan Beever; Dominick Capalba** (6 year old with brain cancer); **Patty Fitzgerald** (terminal lung cancer); Kay Roseen's family: **Jessica and Casey O'Neil** (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law who work for the State Department); **Marcia & Chuck Hendron** (Kay's parents – memory care); **John Steffen** (Lorli's brother with health concerns); **Tammy** (Lorli's niece with an immune disorder); **Judy Letwink** (Lorli's nephew's Mother-in-law recovering from a stroke); **Gisela N.** (Lorli's friend with bladder cancer); **Erika Ilgenfritz** (health concerns); **James Ilgenfritz** (Erika's son); **Chris Niederer** (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); **Eric Niederer** (Pastor's son with a chronic condition); **Nancy Barbee** (Pastor's friend with lung cancer); **Dennis Keohane** (Catherine's uncle); **Willi Harper's Aunt Kelly** (health concerns); **Donna Maxwell** (recovering from hip surgery); **Jim and James Mingo, Kristen Zelinski, and Jimmy Jamieson** (Donna M's Family Members); **Rick Gentile** (Donna G's son with health concerns); **Mary Sue Kaplow** (health concerns); **Gail Storero** (health concerns); (baby) **Chris** (Ruth DiCicco's daughter) & **Bob Wheeler**; **Jeanne H.** (Lorli's sister with health issues); **Krystyna Kirsch; Alison (Ali) Krasnow & Family**; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, injustices, and war; organizations and individuals who are providing resources, care, and relief for those in need: front line workers, medical researchers, health care workers, and firefighters; and all affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

Let Lynn or Pastor know of any changes needed in the prayer list.



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Conversion of Paul

Sunday, January 25, 2026

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

Monday, January 26, 2026

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Women as well as men were important Christian leaders from the beginning, as demonstrated by these coworkers of the apostle Paul. Lydia, a seller of purple goods, lent her home for a church; Dorcas was known for charitable works; and Phoebe was a deacon in the church at Cenchrae.

Thomas Aquinas, teacher, died 1274

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

One of the most brilliant and creative theologians in the church's history, Aquinas worked to bring together scripture and the philosophy of Aristotle. A member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), Aquinas was also a hymnwriter.