

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY JANUARY 29, 2023



Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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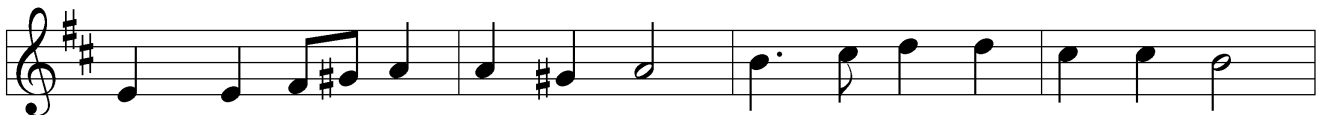


**ENTRANCE HYMN*****Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*****LBW 90**

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885

Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702, adapt.

- 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



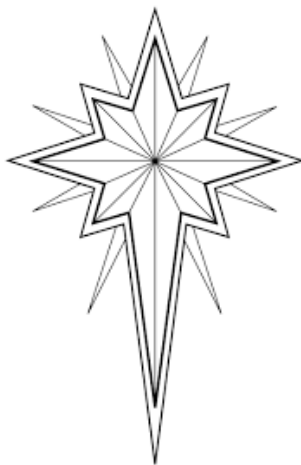
**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**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

WOV, Setting 5



☐ 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.



☐ Lord God, heav- en - ly king, al- migh- ty God and Fa- ther, we



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



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



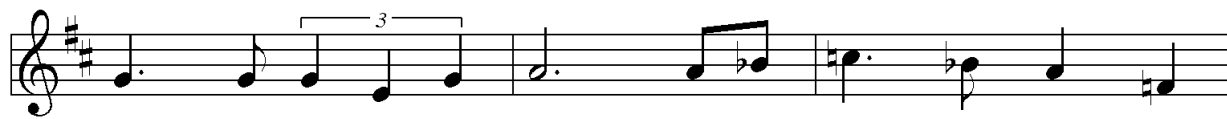
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ 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**  
**II** For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



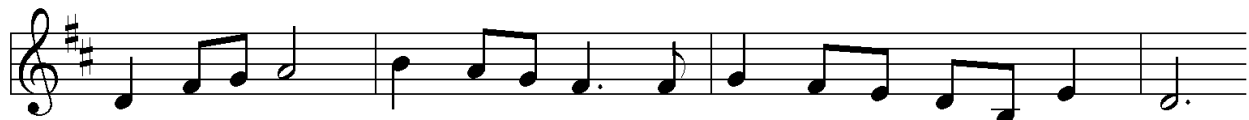
you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



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** Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**Please be seated.**

**FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8**

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.*

A A reading from Micah, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

<sup>6</sup>"With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

A The word of God. The Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 15

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

A A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

A The word of God. The Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



**Please stand as you are able.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW 157**

**ALL SING:**

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

Music: Plainsong mode VI

**Verse**

Rejoice <sup>1</sup> and be glad,\* for your reward is <sup>1</sup> great in heaven.. (*Matt. 5:12*)

**ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:  
<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.  
<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

**ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.**

**Please be seated**

*Silence for Meditation*

*Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Blest Are They*

WOV 764

Blest are they, the poor in spirit,  
Theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow, They shall be consoled.  
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones,  
They shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst,  
They shall have their fill.  
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they who show mercy,  
Mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they, the pure of heart,  
They shall see God.  
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, who seek peace,  
They are the children of God.  
Blest are they who suffer in faith,  
The glory of God is theirs.  
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are you who suffer hate  
All because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad Yours is the kingdom  
Shine for all to see  
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!



## **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 and 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 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 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

*Sue Papera*

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

### ***A brief silence.***

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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 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.**

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers (*especially in Ukraine and Russia*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need, especially those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

### ***Here other intercessions may be offered.***

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust that you abide with your people always. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

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.**

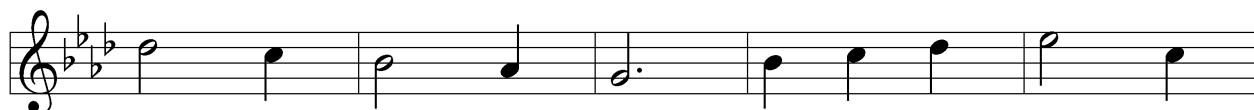
**OFFERTORY HYMN**

***O God of Mercy. God of Light***

**LBW 425**



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and  
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost  
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for  
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
word and thought may work a work for you.  
grace pro - vide to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
each other's burdens help us share;  
may we, where help is needed, there  
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
all those who live to live in love,  
till you receive in heav'n above  
those who have lived to you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.  
Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

**Please stand.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray.

Liberating God,  
you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.  
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful  
power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.  
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

**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.**

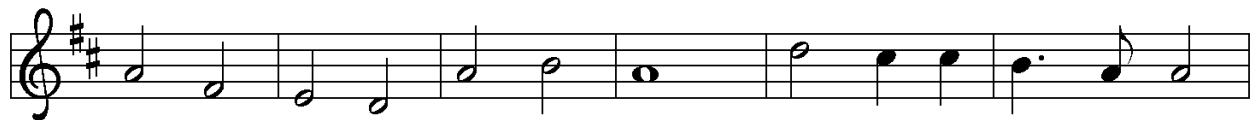
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

**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



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.



## 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.**

## 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

Come to the table where all are welcome.  
Come and taste the joy of God!

## AGNUS DEI



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 stay seated until the person in front of you has received the wafer.***

***Continue to mask until after you have received the wafer & cup and have stepped 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 that 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 Dimittis*

*LBW, Setting 2*



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.  
Holy One,  
we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.  
Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.
- C Amen.

## BLESSING

P The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING HYMN

### *Rise Up, O Saints of God!*

**LBW 383**



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, PART 2

### DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C Thanks be to God

**OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY  
TO**

Kaitlin Costello, Greeter  
Janet Thalmann, Liturgist & Reader  
Sue Papera, Prayers of Intercession  
Janet Thalmann, Altar Guild



Congregational  
MEETING

**Part 2**

**After Mass Today**

Looking back over the past year: Mission & Ministry Reports  
Selection and vote on  
Grace's Voting Member(s) to the NJ Synod Assembly  
Scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>  
outdoors on the "Grounds for Sculpture" Hamilton, NJ



**At Grace in Memorial Room  
Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, at 1:30 PM**



**Via Zoom**  
**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Noon**  
*Epiphany: The Historic Signs of God's Love*  
1<sup>st</sup> John, Chapter 5  
*Connection link will be emailed*



## PRAYERS

Carol Weber; Doris Baumann (Carol's mom); Katie Wolfe with vision issues (Carol's cousin); Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom), and Frank Borowski (Katie's dad), and aunt; Enrique Perez (Jack's father-in-law); Marc Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's son); Melanie M. (Julie's friend); John Fiore, Sr. (Julie's friend's father with cancer); Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Arlene Rizzo (Sue's friend undergoing cancer treatments) and Arlene's family; Chris Palmer (Sue Papera's friend who has health concerns); Ron Barlotta (Sue's sister's brother-in-law being treated for cancer); Caleb (Sue's friend with mental health issues); Jenny L. (Sue's friend with health issues); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Beverly Philip (Janet's sister-in-law with severe dementia); Kathy O'Brien (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Michele Rusciano (a friend of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Dominick Capalba (Mary Ellen's 6 year old friend with brain cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department; Dan and John Steffen (Lorli's brothers with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Gerry Schlask (health concerns); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Cathyann (Pastor's friend from seminary with pancreatic cancer); Doris Feirer (a friend of the congregation); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Charlie and Mary Lewis (Fred's brother and sister-in-law with health concerns); Gail Storero (Prayer Shawl Member following surgery); the people of Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan and those who are providing resources and care for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health experts, national and regional officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

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



## **COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK**

### **Presentation of Our Lord Thursday, February 2, 2023**

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

### **Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865 Friday, February 3, 2023**

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.