

## Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.

*Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Two*



ST. JOHN'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Prayer before worship

*Everlasting God, fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all through Him who is the true Light and the bright Morning Star, Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless this time of worship, drawing our hearts and minds to you. Amen.*

### Welcome

### Pre-Service Music

"A Prayer" (Esther Megargel)

### Ringling of the Bells

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

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### Opening Hymn

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" (LSB 395)



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in  
3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!  
from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas -  
In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -  
Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!  
es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.  
with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic - to - rious,  
Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us  
Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!



Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

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## Greeting

**P** The grace of God in Christ Jesus, poured out in every gift of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.



**C** 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. 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. 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.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Children's Message

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1–7

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, he who formed me from 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 eyes of the

LORD, and my God has become my strength— <sup>6</sup>he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” <sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** (*read responsively*)

Psalm 40:1–11

**L** I waited patiently for the LORD;  
he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**C** **He drew me up from the pit of destruction,  
out of the miry bog,  
and set my feet upon a rock,  
making my steps secure.**

**L** He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear,  
and put their trust in the LORD.

**C** **Blessèd is the man who makes  
the LORD his trust,  
who does not turn to the proud,  
to those who go astray after a lie!**

**L** You have multiplied, O LORD my God,  
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
none can compare with you!  
I will proclaim and tell of them,  
yet they are more than can be told.

**C** **Sacrifice and offering you have not desired,  
but you have given me an open ear.**

**Burnt offering and sin offering  
you have not required.**

**L** Then I said, “Behold, I have come;  
in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

**C** **I desire to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart.”**

**L** I have told the glad news of deliverance  
in the great congregation;  
behold, I have not restrained my lips,  
as you know, O LORD.

**C** **I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness  
from the great congregation.**

**L** As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain  
your mercy from me;  
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will  
ever preserve me!

## **Epistle**

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord

Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia and Verse



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

### Holy Gospel

John 1:29–42

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

*Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.*

**<sup>29</sup>The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"**

<sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

<sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

<sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

<sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you

seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

<sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup>He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "So, you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Sermon**

"He Who Baptizes with the Holy Spirit"

**Hymn of the Day**

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (LSB 411)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.

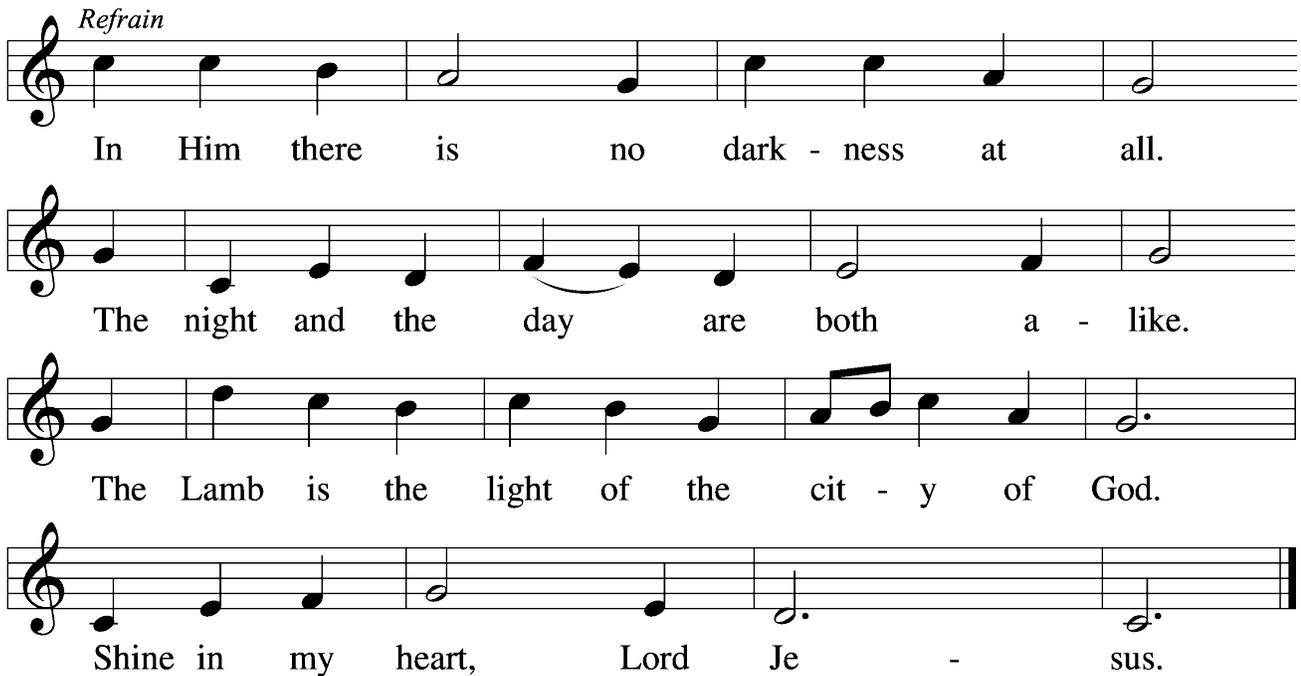


God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.  
 The night and the day are both a - like.  
 The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.  
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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## Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father 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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** Drawn to the light of Christ, made bold in the waters of Baptism, and filled with the Spirit, we lift up our prayers in confidence that God loves and listens to us.

*Special petitions are announced, followed by a brief silence. Each petition closes with the words*

*"Lord in Your mercy." Please respond by saying, "hear our prayer."*

*The prayers conclude with:*

**P** Good and gracious God, we ask all these things and whatever else you see that we need with a sure and certain hope in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Offertory Prayer**

**L** Let us pray:

Loving God, you sent your only Son to live among us, bringing us your grace and truth. As we prepare to receive the gift of Christ's presence once again, all we have to offer is what you have given us. Receive all that we have and all that we are to your glory and for your service, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

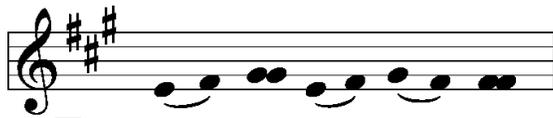
**C Amen.**

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## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al-so 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 Him thanks and praise.

### Preface for Epiphany

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## Sanctus

**C** 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

### **C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

- C 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.**

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei



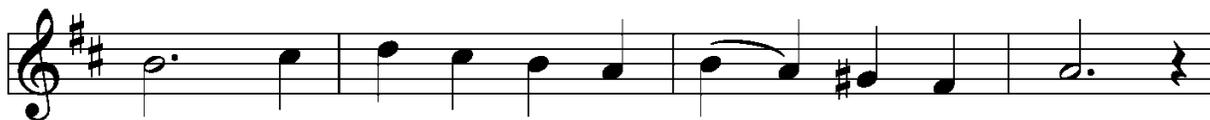
**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



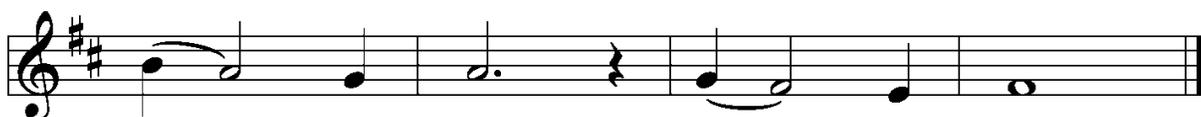
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



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.

*Please be seated*

## Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape

juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

### **Music at the Distribution**

"When I'm Afflicted, Poor, and Low" (William Bradley Roberts)  
(Choir of St. John's)

*When I'm afflicted, poor, and low, and light and peace depart,  
my God beholds my heavy woe, and bears me on his heart.  
I waited patient for the Lord, he bowed to hear my cry;  
He saw me resting on his word, and brought salvation nigh.*

*He raised me from a horrid pit, where mourning long I lay,  
and from my bonds released my feet, deep bonds of miry clay.  
Firm on a rock he made me stand, and taught my cheerful tongue  
to praise the wonders of his hand, in a new thankful song.*

*How many are thy thoughts of love! Thy mercies, Lord, how great!  
We have not words nor hours enough, their numbers to repeat.  
When I'm afflicted, poor, and low, and light and peace depart,  
my God beholds my heavy woe, and bears me on his heart.*

# "The Lamb"

(LSB 547)

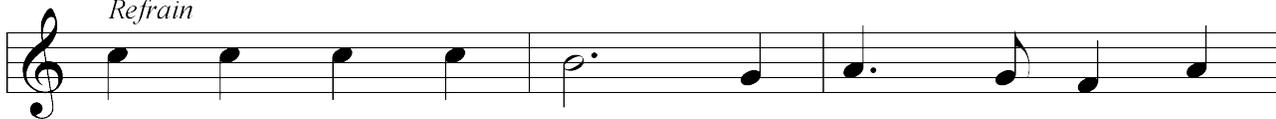


1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?  
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.  
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill  
 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.  
 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
 So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.  
 He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.  
 His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

*Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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# "Lamb of God"

(LSB 550)



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have  
 2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and  
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a  
 brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
 rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

*Refrain*



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

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## Dismissal

### Post-Communion Canticle



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



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

## Post-Communion Collect

**L** Let us pray:

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Sending Hymn

"Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" (LSB 395)



4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when  
5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all  
6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love



not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!  
with mu - sic crowned, Our voic - es glad - ly blend - ing!  
is first and last, The end and the be - gin - ning!



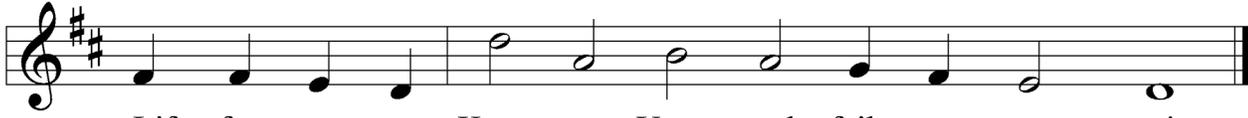
Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him  
For Christ goes with us all the way— To - day, to - mor -  
He will one day, oh, glo - rious grace, Trans - port us to



here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.  
row, ev - 'ry day! His love is nev - er end - ing!  
that hap - py place Be - yond all tears and sin - ning!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing  
 Sing out! Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion!  
 A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad-ness!



Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!  
 Tell the sto - ry! Great is He, the King of Glo - ry!  
 We are yearn - ing For the day of Your re - turn - ing!

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## Postlude

"Postlude on 'Morning Star'" (Henry Balcombe)



## Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome/Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Mark Guilfoil
Communion Lay Assistant	Jennifer Hills
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Charlotte Hills
Crucifer	Sofi Hills
Ushers	Benjamin May
	Michelle May
Altar Care	Martiza Guerra
AV Operators	Mark Gilbertson
	Denise Canter
Welcome Host	Christy Hoins
Nursery	Beth Rempe
	Lisa Goodell



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by Pat Zissios, in memory of the 10th anniversary of her husband, Charles' death.

SCAN HERE TO



CONNECT WITH SJLC



Give online

Read/Sign up for newsletters

Register or attend events/classes

Request for prayers

Connect on social media

...AND MORE!

## Acknowledgments

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**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**5952 Franconia Road**  
**Alexandria, VA 22310**



*A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

**St. John's Lutheran Church Staff**

Pastor	Rev. John Meehan
Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE
Director of Music	David Leahey
Office Administrator	Michelle May
Finance Administrator	Jennifer Smith

**Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Staff**

Director of ECEC	Amanda Parks
ECEC Administrator	Kari Wells

**Contact Us**

Office: 703-971-2210

ECEC: 703-971-3581

Website: [www.sjlc.com](http://www.sjlc.com)

**Emails**

Pastor: [pastor.meehan@sjlc.com](mailto:pastor.meehan@sjlc.com)

Director of Discipleship: [jennifer.hills@sjlc.com](mailto:jennifer.hills@sjlc.com)

Director of Music: [david.leahey@sjlc.com](mailto:david.leahey@sjlc.com)

Office: [office@sjlc.com](mailto:office@sjlc.com)

Finance: [finance@sjlc.com](mailto:finance@sjlc.com)

ECEC Director: [ecec@sjlc.com](mailto:ecec@sjlc.com)

ECEC Administrator: [ecec.admin@sjlc.com](mailto:ecec.admin@sjlc.com)