

## Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.

With One Voice: Holy Communion, Setting 6



ST. JOHN'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Prayer before Worship:

Lord Jesus, walk with us during these 40 days of Lent. Be near to us in our struggles against temptation, and let us find our strength in you. Bless this time of worship for your Name's sake. Amen.



### Welcome

### Pre-Service Music

"Meditation for Lent" (Paul Fey)

### 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** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C** we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

**We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.**

**Forgive us and bring us back to you,**

**For we once were dead but now have life, through our Savior  
Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

**P** The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

**C** Amen.

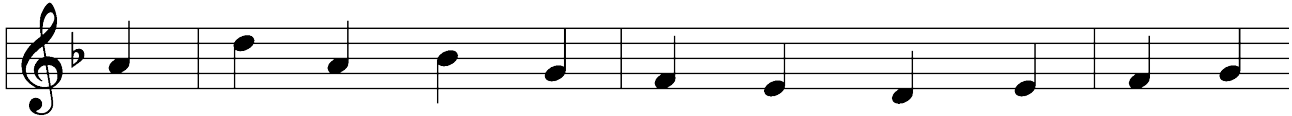
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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

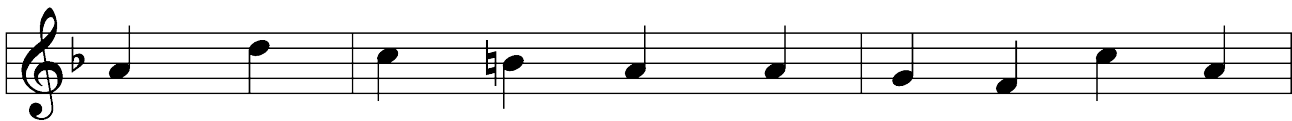
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### Processional Hymn

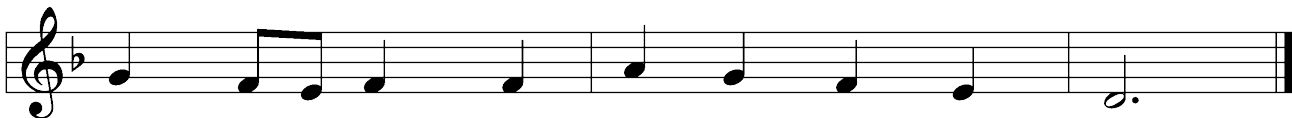
"O God of Mercy, God of Might" (LSB 852)



1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and  
2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die That our lost  
3 Teach us the les - son Thou hast taught: To feel for  
4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Thou, O



pit - y in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er  
world might live there - by, O hear us; for to  
those Thy blood hath bought, That ev - 'ry word and  
Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and



in Thy sight, To live our lives in Thee.  
Thee we cry, In hope, O Lord, to Thee.  
deed and thought May work a work for Thee.  
grace pro - vide To love them all in Thee!

- 5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
 May we each other's burdens share;  
 May we, where help is needed, there  
 Give help as unto Thee!
- 6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move  
 All those who live to live in love  
 Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above  
 All those who live in Thee.

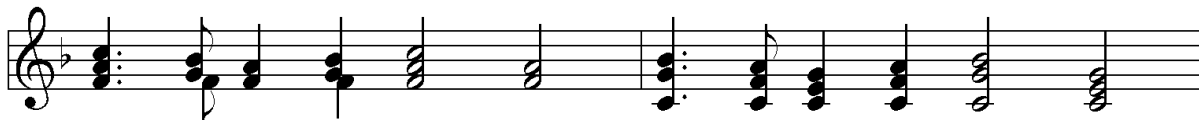
Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt., Tune: Samuel Howard, 1710-82, Text and tune: Public domain

## Greeting

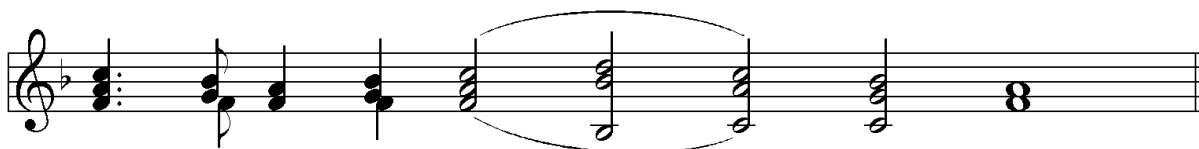
**P** The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**G** And also with you.

## Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
 1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 Chris - te e - lei - son.  
 Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Christ, have mer - cy.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray:

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Children's Message

### Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 121

**L** I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

**C** My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

**L** He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.

**C** Behold, he who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

**L** The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

**C** **The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

**L** The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.

**C** **The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.**

### **Epistle Reading**

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;

<sup>8</sup>blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." [...]

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

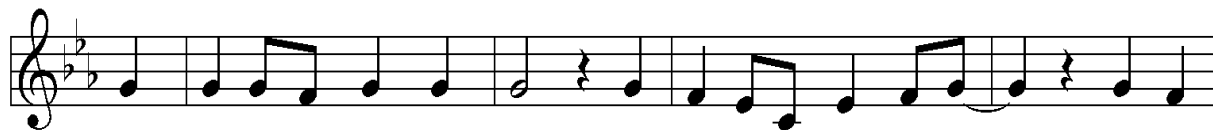
<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many

nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Lenten Verse



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is



gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

## Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

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

**G** Glory 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>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these

things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. **<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

"From Ashes to Alleluia: With Jesus at Night"

## Hymn of the Day

"God Loved the Word So That He Gave" (LSB 571)



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 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** Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

*Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.*

*During the season of Lent each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."*

*Please respond by saying: "Hear our prayer."*

*The prayers end with the words:*

**P** Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the One in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Announcements

### Offertory Prayer

**L** Let us pray. God our provider,

**C** you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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### Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up to the Lord.

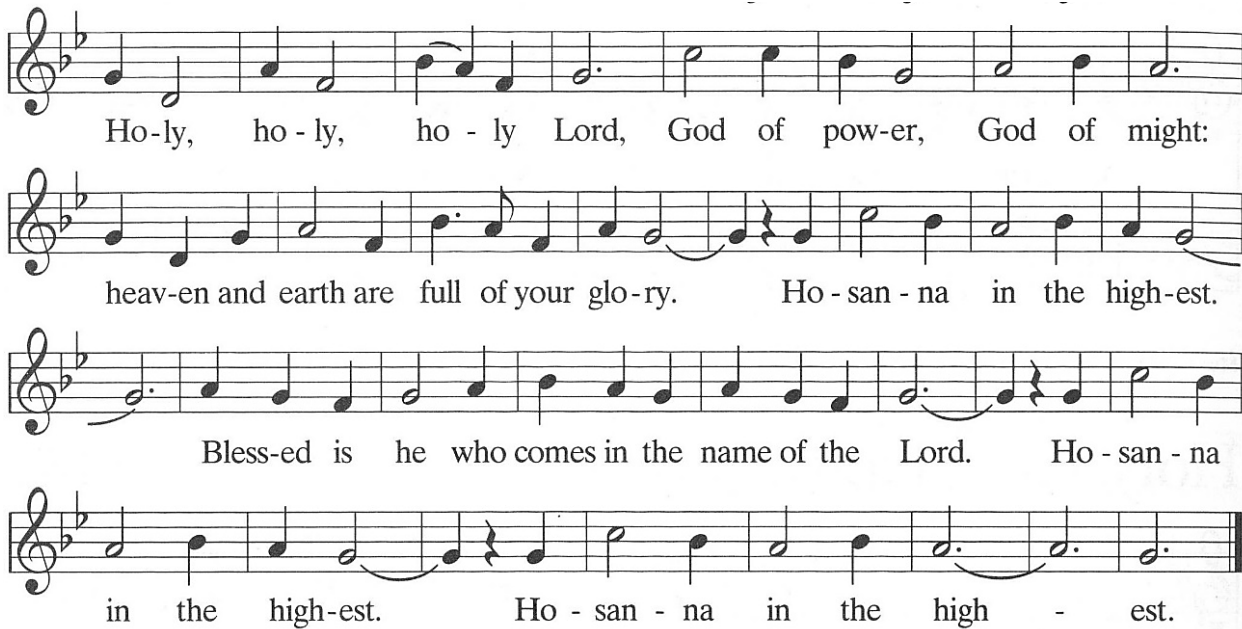
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Preface

**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of the grace that belongs to the children of God. 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, God of pow-er, God of might:  
heav-en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

### **Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

*1\** Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
*2* have mer - cy on us, *3* have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us, 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**

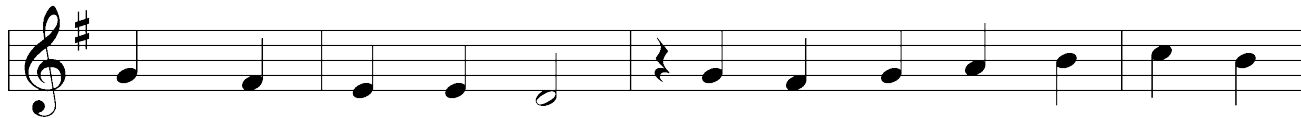
"Jesu Son of God" (W A Mozart)  
(St. John's Choir)

# "Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters"

(LSB 598)



1 Once in the blest bap - tis - mal wa - ters I put on  
2 His bod - y and His blood I've tak - en In His blest  
3 And thus I live in God con - tent - ed And die with -



Christ and made Him mine; Now num - bered with God's sons and  
Sup - per, feast di - vine; Now I shall nev - er be for -  
out a thought of fear; My soul has to God's plans con -



daugh - ters, I share His peace and love di - vine.  
sak - en, For I am His, and He is mine.  
sent - ed, For through His Son my faith is clear.

*Refrain*



O God, for Je - sus' sake I pray Your peace may bless my dy - ing day.

Text: Emilie Juliane von Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, 1637-1706; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr., alt.  
Tune: Christian Möck, 1737-1818  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318  
Tune: Public domain

# "What Wondrous Love Is This, O My Soul"

(LSB 543)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Dismissal

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**L** Let us pray: Merciful God,

**C** accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

**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

**L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Sending Hymn

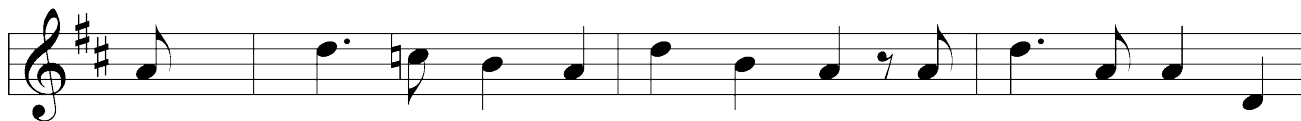
"All Who Believe and Are Baptized" (LSB 601)



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;  
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.  
Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,  
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.  
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.  
Tune: Etlich Cristlich Ilder, 1524, Wittenberg  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Postlude

"Invention I" (Joseph Callaerts)



## Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Mike Nordvall
Communion Lay Assistant	Tish Nordvall
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Luke Pflugradt
Crucifer	Evie Hasset
Ushers	Andrea Godwin
	Joe Godwin
Altar Care	Jean Gilbertson
AV Operators	Denise Canter
	Mark Gilbertson
Welcome Host	Jan Swicord
Nursery	Beth Rempe





This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by donations to the flower fund.

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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*Jesu Son of God - W A Mozart, arr. F. Martin (Belwin Mills Publishing Corp. (Catalog # SCHCH05502)*

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## **2026 Lenten Worship Schedule**

***NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with an \****

### **Sundays in Lent**

**March 8, 15, and 22**

10:30AM\* - Worship Services with Holy Communion

### **Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday**

10:30AM\* - Worship Services with Holy Communion

### **Wednesdays in Lent**

**March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1**

12 Noon\* - Midweek Lenten Worship with Holy Communion

### **Holy Week**

#### **Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday**

7:00PM\* - Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

#### **Friday, April 3 - Good Friday**

12 Noon & 7:00PM\* - No Communion

#### **Saturday, April 4 - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter**

7:00PM\* - Holy Communion

#### **Sunday, April 5 - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday**

8:00AM & 10:30AM\* - Holy Communion

***Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt between worship services***



**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**

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

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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)

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