

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022 | 8:00 & 10:30 AM



Everyone is welcome. As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

Children are welcome. We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and a professionally staffed nursery is available from 7:45 AM to 11:45 AM. Follow the signs or ask any member for directions.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and the pastors will be happy to commune you at your pew.

Offerings: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

Assisted Listening: To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST_JOHNS_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen. Individual wired devices coming soon!



Ministers: The People of St. John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Jessica Damrow Sherman, Communications Director

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Prayer Before Worship

God of abundant mercy, you alone can turn evil into good, sorrow into rejoicing, and death into everlasting life. Teach us your way of grace—to meet hatred with kindness, to answer curses with blessing, to love without holding back, to give without thought of return; all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 1

Gathering

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

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

By J. G. Walther

WELCOME

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

The Lord is our light and our salvation!

Whom shall we fear?

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God’s mercy.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God, **we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace. In the name of † Jesus, you are forgiven. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 605 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



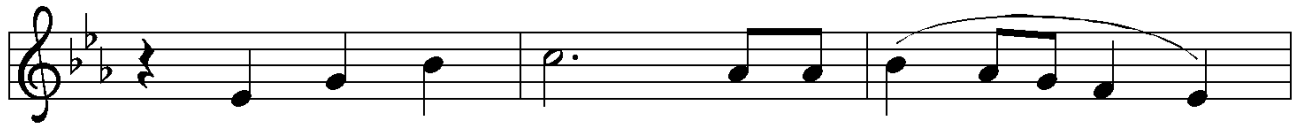
but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God in the high -



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



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



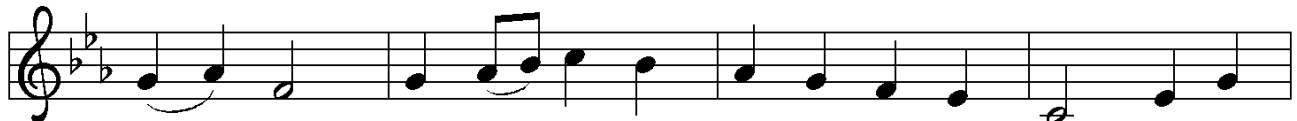
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



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 -



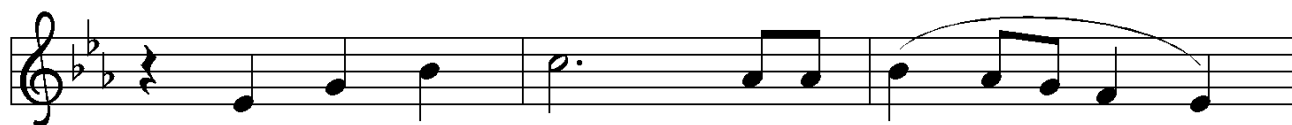
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



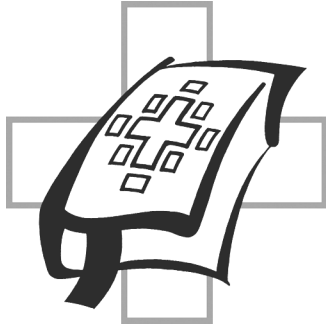
Glo - ry to God in the high -



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Genesis 45:3–11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. ***The assembly responds:*** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-11

*Refrain sung first by choir, thereafter by all.
Light verses sung by choir. Bold verses sung by all.*

The low-ly shall pos-sess the land; they will de -
light in a - bun - dance of peace.

- ¹Do not be provoked by ¹ evildoers;
do not be jealous of those ¹ who do wrong.
- ²**For they shall soon wither ¹ like the grass,
and like the green grass ¹ fade away.**
- ³Put your trust in the Lord ¹ and do good;
dwell in the land and ¹ find safe pasture.
- ⁴**Take delight ¹ in the Lord,
who shall give you your ¹ heart's desire. R**
- ⁵Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust ¹ in the Lord,
and see what ¹ God will do.
- ⁶**The Lord will make your vindication as clear ¹ as the light
and the justice of your case like the ¹ noonday sun.**
- ⁷Be still before the Lord and wait ¹ patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in ¹ evil schemes.
- ⁸**Refrain from anger, leave ¹ rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- ¹ ly to evil. R**
- ⁹For evildoers shall ¹ be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall pos- ¹ sess the land.
- ¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall ¹ be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will ¹ not be there.**
- ¹¹But the lowly shall pos- ¹ sess the land;
they will delight in abun- ¹ dance of peace. R

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**



Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Luke 6:27–38

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding: The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 1043 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's

2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my

3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and

goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and

friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.

deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.

day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission and this congregation's ministry. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, or want information about mailing checks, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org/giving or scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC

8:00 Improvisation on “Forgive Our Sins”

By Wayne H. Dietterick

10:30 “Commonwealth is God’s Commandment,” ACS 1036
Adult Choir

Commonwealth is God's commandment; common goods are meant to share.
Tables set and doors wide open welcome angels unaware.

Refrain

Plead for the peace of all creation. Pray for a place where grace is found.
Shanti, pax, shalom, maslaha: common good is holy ground.

Sharing lavish gifts and blessings, love that not one mite withholds,
stretch out arms to friends and strangers: God has sheep of many folds. *Refrain*

Genders, races, tribes, and nations, hear the Holy One who calls,
biding all to work together, bridging lives and breaching walls. *Refrain*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle

Tune: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*

The word *share* is used in the Bible more than one hundred times. Hospitality is a hallmark of the followers of Jesus. This new hymn text encourages us not only to share and open our doors and tables to both neighbor and stranger, but also to pray for peace in several languages: Latin (*pax*) and Hebrew (*shalom*), which may be familiar to Christians, but also Sanskrit (*shanti*) and Arabic (*maslaha*). Our common good is indeed holy ground.

Please stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

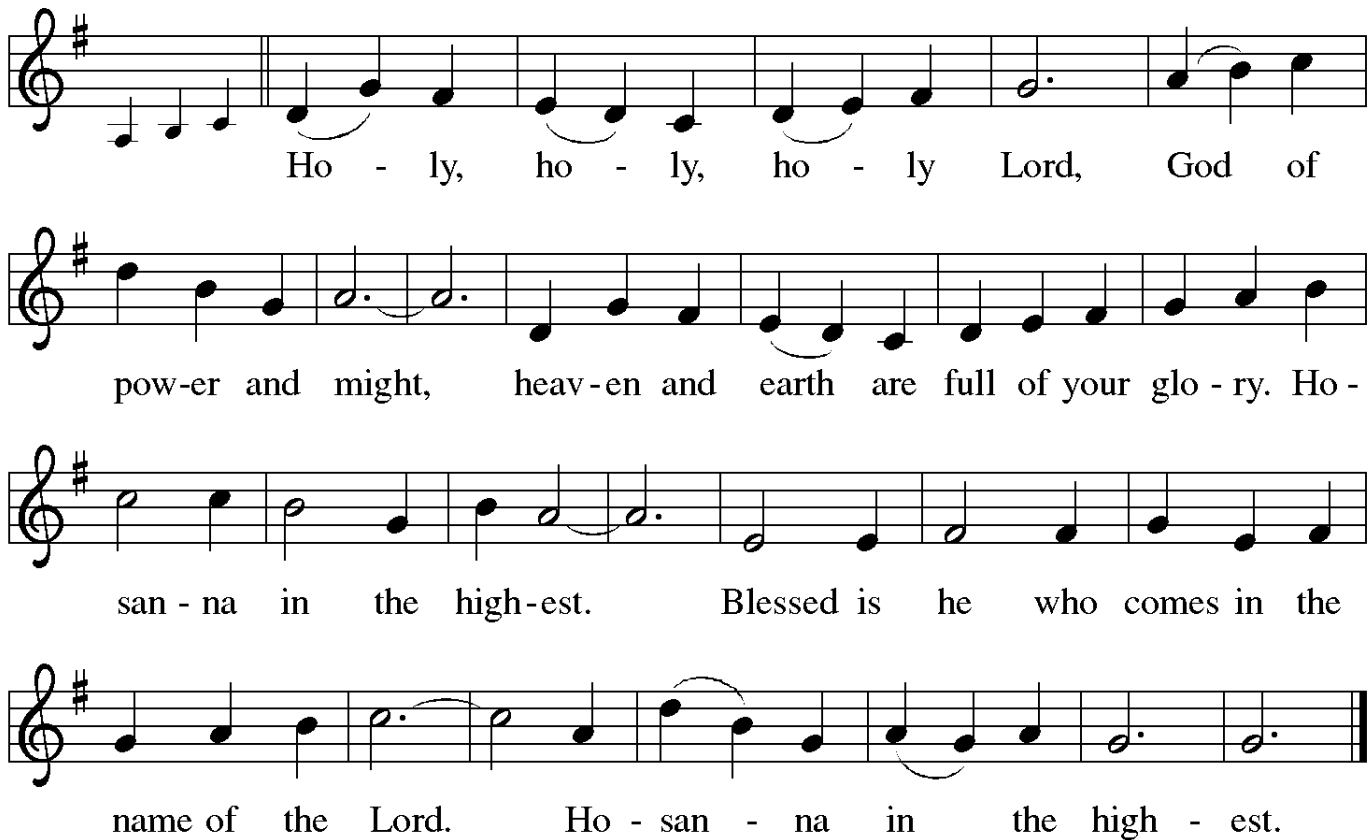
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



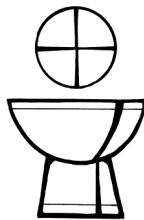
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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.



Please be seated.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

*If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.
The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.
The assisting minister serves the wine / grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.
You may pick up your personal cup, being careful to only touch that cup.
Step aside and drink the wine, placing the used cup in the return tray.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.
If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.*

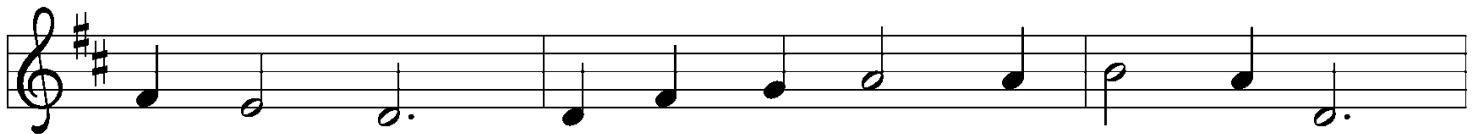
LAMB OF GOD

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.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 358 Great God, Your Love Has Called Us (10:30 ONLY)



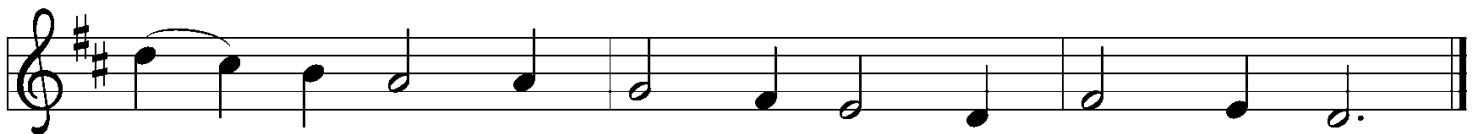
1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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Music © Oxford University Press. Used by permission.

COMMUNION HYMN ACS 1037 Christ, Our Peace (10:30 ONLY)

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It contains a vocal melody line with lyrics underneath. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, containing a piano accompaniment line with chords and some moving bass lines.

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the vocal melody from the first system, ending with a double bar line. The lower staff continues the piano accompaniment, also ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: CHRIST, OUR PEACE, Marty Haugen

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Please stand.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, 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.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

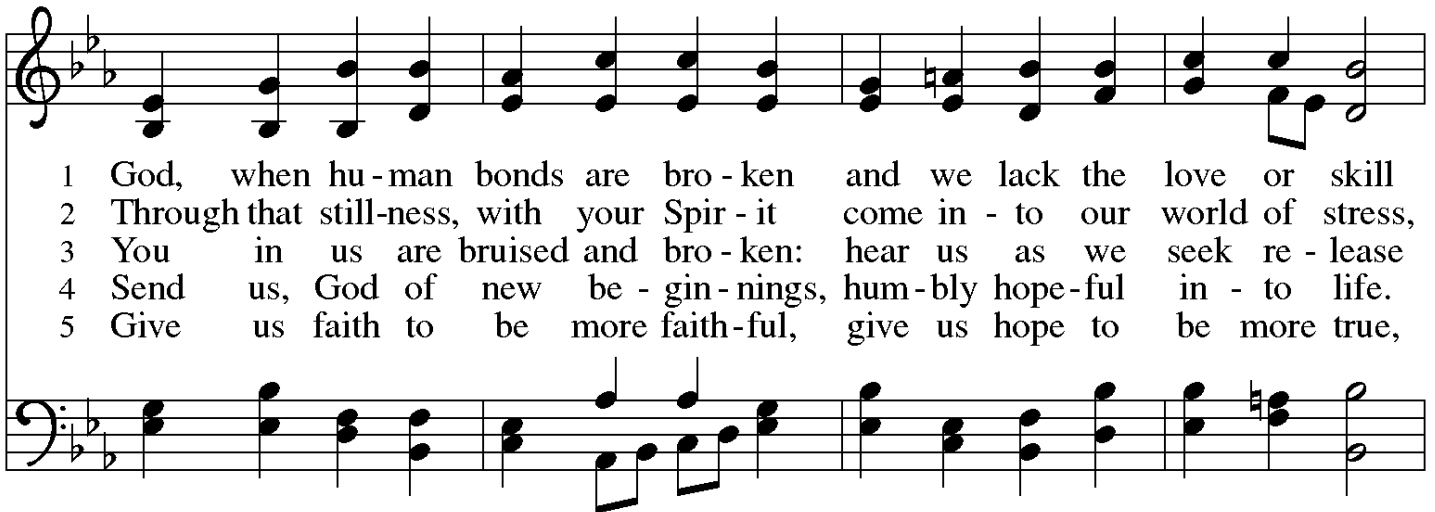
Sending

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

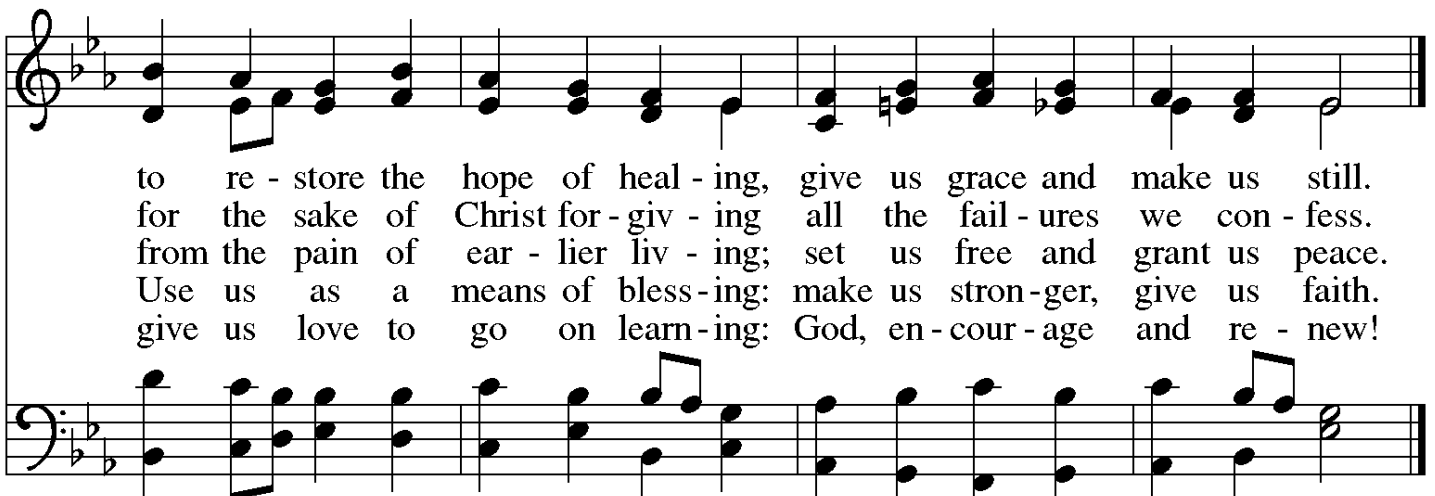
BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 603 God, When Human Bonds are Broken



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we seek re - lease
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful in - to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re - store the hope of heal - ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing all the fail - ures we con - fess.
from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless - ing: make us stron - ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn - ing: God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Variation on *Merton*

Arr. Wayne H. Dietterick

February 20, 2022

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

2022 Offering Envelopes: If you use or would like to use offering envelopes for your contributions, 2022 envelopes are available for pickup after the service.

We are in dire need of Worship Assistants! No matter your skill set, we have a job for you! We need Altar Guild volunteers, Greeters, Counters, Readers, Ushers and Livestream Crew members. You're coming to worship anyway - why not also lend a hand? Many hands do indeed make light work, and it takes MANY hands to offer the worship services and events that we do. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Pastor Blake or Bev Kaczmariski.

Additional Counters Needed: The time commitment is about one hour every other month after the 10:30 service. No prior experience required. Please contact Linda.mesenbrink@verizon.net or call 973-202-2773.

Thinking about volunteering for our Social Justice/Social Ministry Committee? The impact of our SJ/SM Committee is massive - and you can be a part of that change. Visit St. John's YouTube Channel to watch recent interviews with the leaders of some of our partner organizations - Bridges Outreach and Family Promise of Union County hear how powerful St. John's mission-based work has proven in our community.

Bishop's Challenge Book Study: Join Bishop Bartholomew on **Tuesday, February 22 or Thursday, February 24 from 7:30-9:00 PM** for a discussion of Isabel Wilkerson's book, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, about why millions of Black Americans left the South between 1915 and 1970. Both evenings will be similar in content. Sign-up at njsynod.org/bishopschallengeevents.

Lent: Ash Wednesday services will be on March 2 at 12:00 PM and 7:30 PM. Keep an eye out for more Lenten resources and announcements coming your way.

Fun WALK/RUN with Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ on March 26: Support the Fun WALK/RUN to help fill food pantries across New Jersey. The Fun Walk/Run will take place at the South County Mountain Recreation Complex and Clipper Pavilion across the street from the Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange, NJ. Included with your walk registration is an event t-shirt, lunch and admission to the Turtle Back Zoo. Visit the LSMNJ website to register.

African American Museum Tour/Mask & Wig Club Tour, April 2: As part of the ongoing Jehu Jones Bishop's Challenge, join us as we visit the African American Museum (10:15 AM) in Philadelphia to learn about the vibrant black communities of Philly at the turn of the 19th century. Then enjoy a short walk for a guided tour at the Mask & Wig Club (1:15 PM), originally built by the Rev. Jehu Jones as the first African American Lutheran Church in the United States. Cost is \$25 for a round trip bus and museum ticket. Lunch is on your own. If traveling on your own you will still need to sign up for your museum ticket (\$9). **Register by March 25** (see weekly email for link).