

Transfiguration of Our Lord
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 11, 2024 | 9:30 AM



All are welcome at Saint John's regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

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.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor 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_



Ministers: The People of Saint John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org

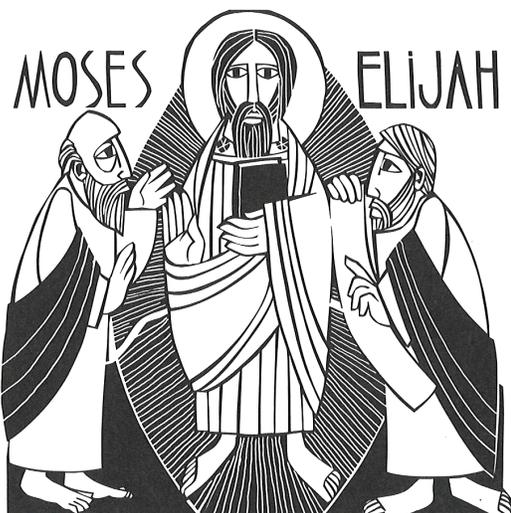
charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org

crothman@stjohnssummit.org

jamabowman@stjohnssummit.org

wk154linda@gmail.com

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

Holy and mighty God, gather us among your faithful ones,
the people of your covenant, to stand in the light of your
glory and listen for the word of the Lord,
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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

Gathering

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

ELW *Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book*

ACS *All Creation Sings: Purple Book*

PRELUDE Prelude in F

Théodore DuBois

WELCOME

Please stand.

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

On a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured.

And God said: This is my Beloved Son.

As God spoke, calling light out of darkness,

God's glory shines in the face of Jesus Christ.

At the mountain of the Lord bow down,

For the Lord our God is holy.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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

Assisting minister



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

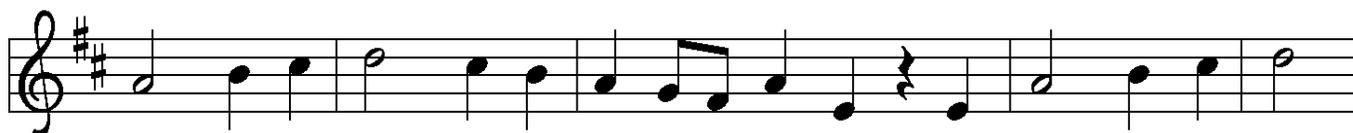
All



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,



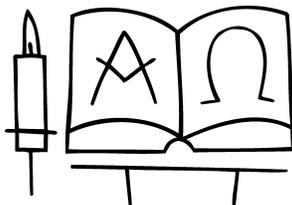
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 2 Kings 2:1–12

¹Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

PSALM 50:1-6

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

Out of Zi - on, per - fect in beau - ty,
God shines forth in glo - ry.

- ¹The mighty one, God the ¹ Lord, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun ¹ to its setting.
- ²**Out of Zion, perfect ¹ in its beauty,
God shines ¹ forth in glory. R**
- ³Our God will come and will ¹ not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a ¹ raging storm.
- ⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth ¹ from above
to witness the judgment ¹ of the people.**
- ⁵“Gather before me my ¹ loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed ¹ it with sacrifice.”
- ⁶**The heavens declare the rightness ¹ of God’s cause,
for it is God ¹ who is judge R**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

Please stand.

GRADUAL HYMN ELW 317 Jesus on the Mountain Peak



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came, God pro - claim - ing
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,
li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law
in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!
sing be - fore him, first and last and on - ly One.



join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:
Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der:
All cre - a - tion shall a - dore him!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: BETHOLD, Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

GOSPEL Mark 9:2–9

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

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 838 Beautiful Savior



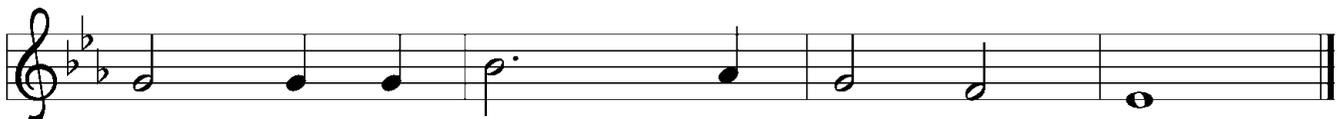
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

APOSTLES CREED

With the whole Church, 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 offerings for God's mission in the world through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. To give online, scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC Elijah Rock

arr. Jester Hairston

Elijah Rock, shout, shout

Elijah Rock, comin' up Lord

Satan's a liar and a conjure too

If you don't watch out he'll conjure you

If I could I surely would

Just stand on the Rock where Moses stood.

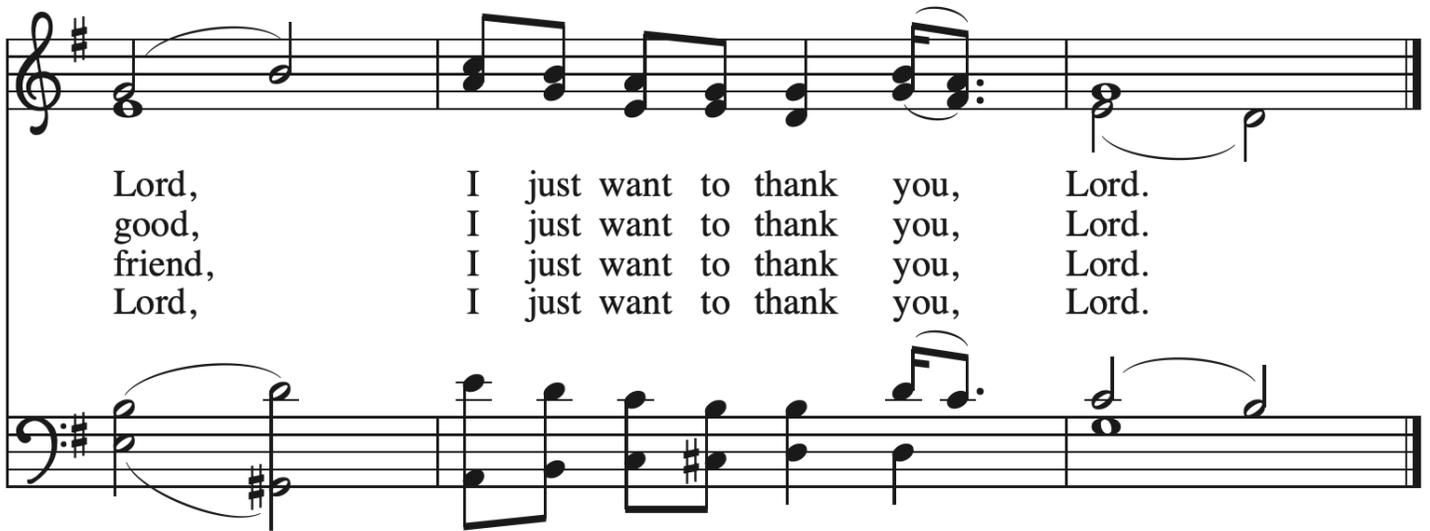
–Traditional Spiritual

Please stand.

OFFERING HYMN ACS 1092 Thank You, Lord



1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
2 Been so good, been so good, been so
3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my
4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you,



Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
good, I just want to thank you, Lord.
friend, I just want to thank you, Lord.
Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.

Text: Traditional

Music: THANK YOU, LORD, Traditional

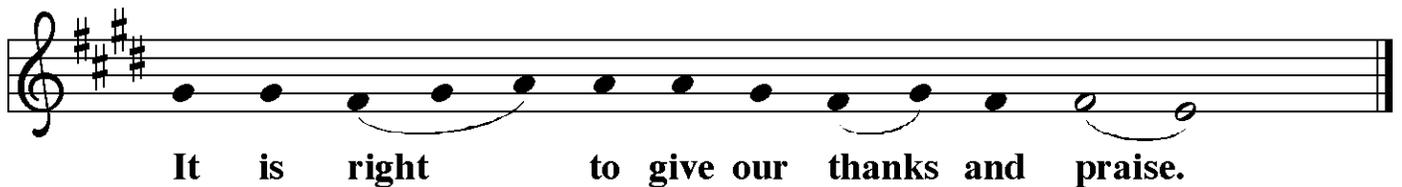
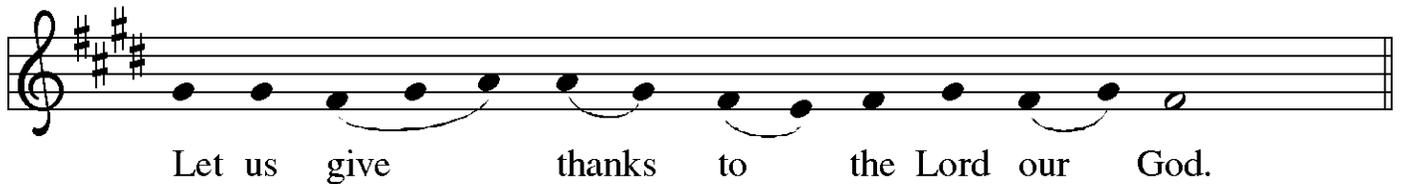
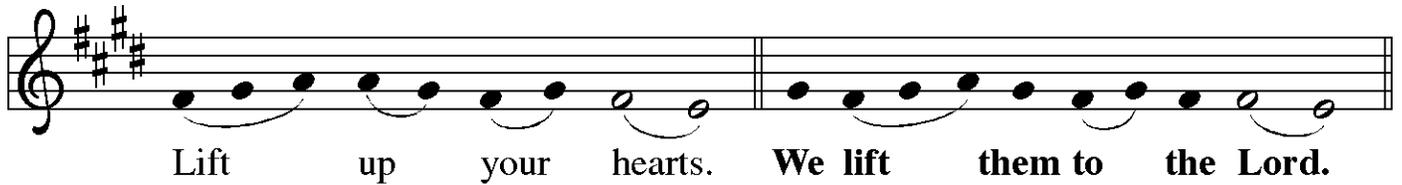
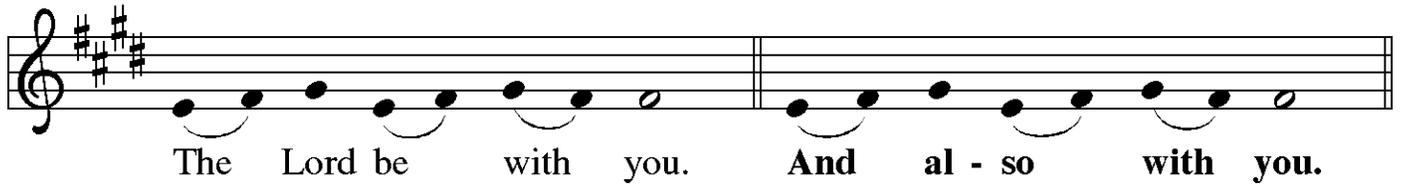
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. **Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

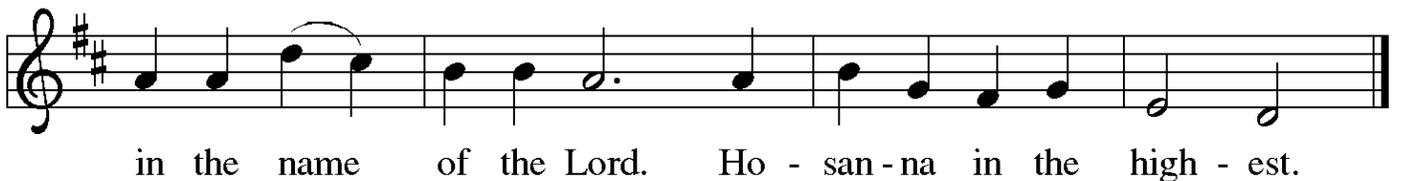
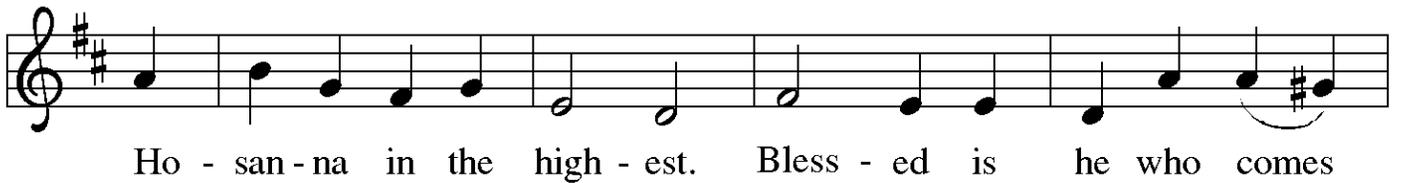
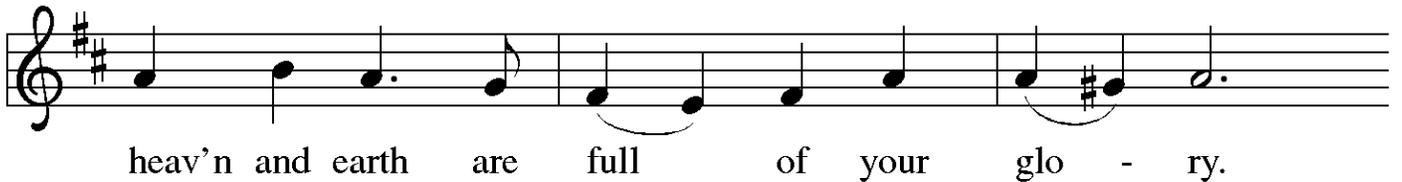
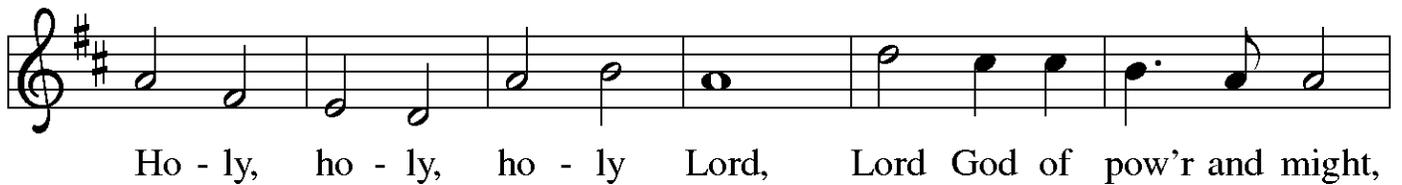
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

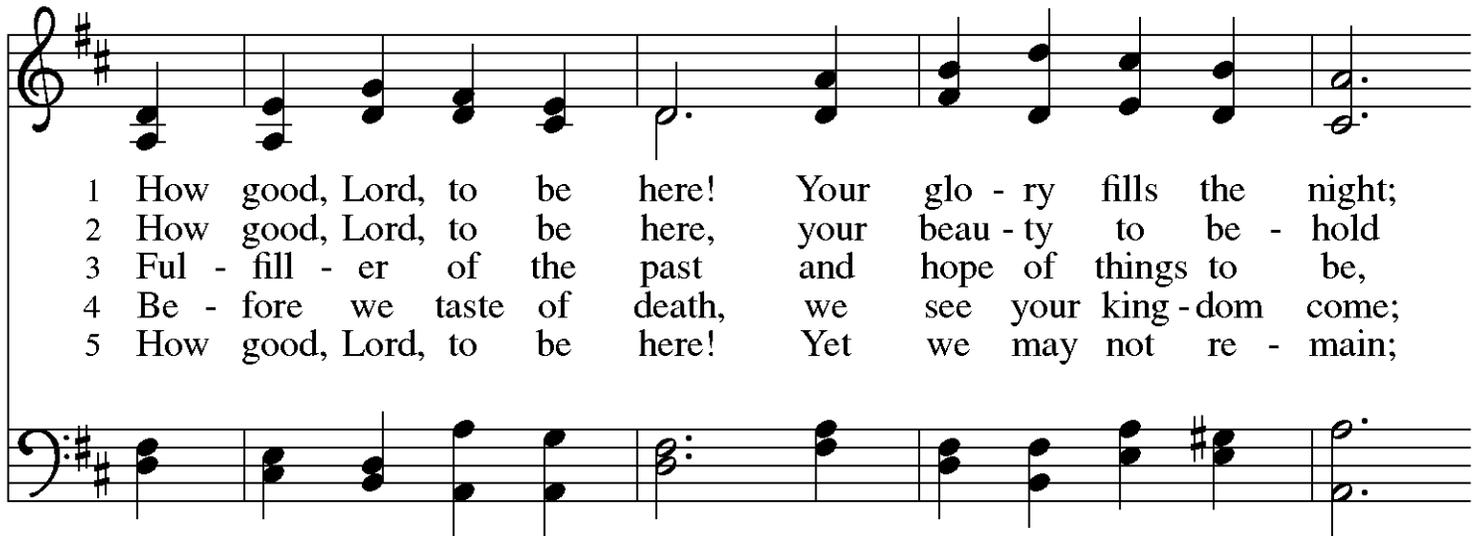
GREAT THANKSGIVING



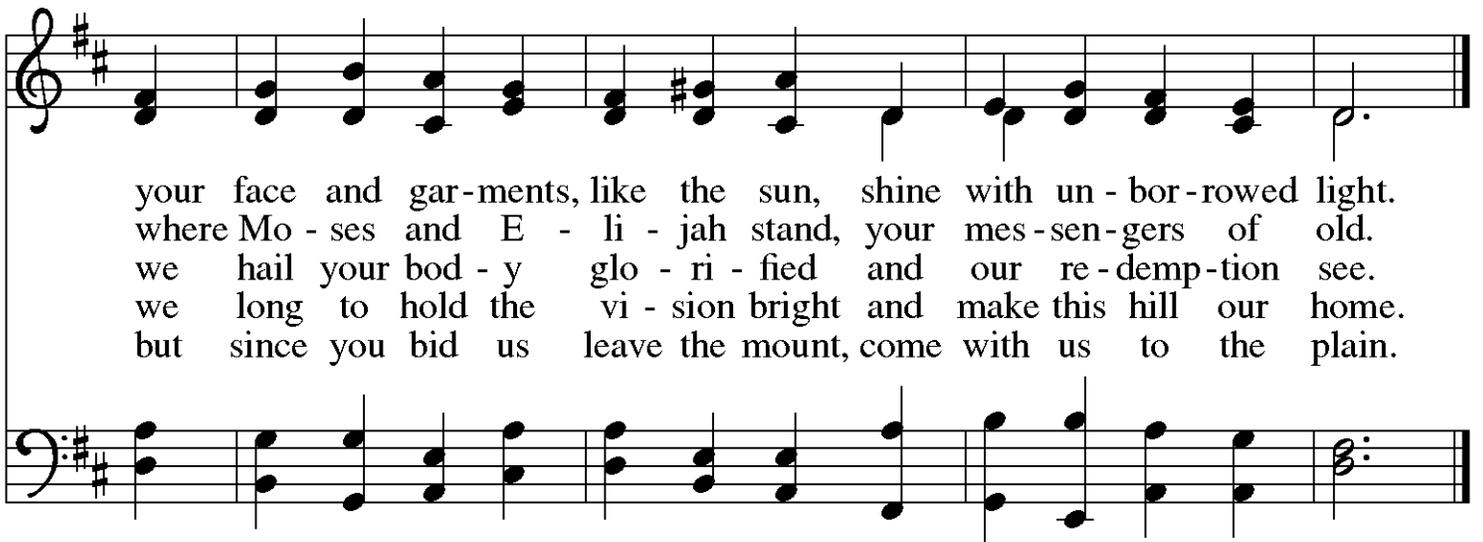
PROPER PREFACE



COMMUNION HYMN ELW 315 How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854



*He was transfigured
before their eyes*

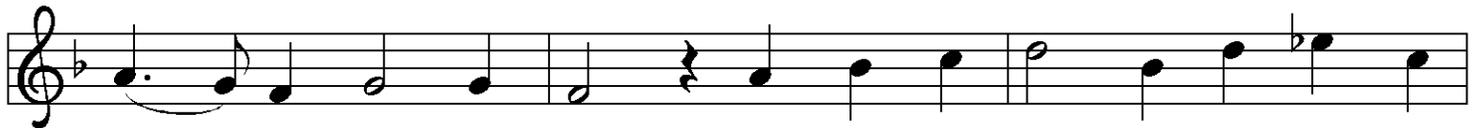
COMMUNION HYMN ELW 867 In Thee Is Gladness



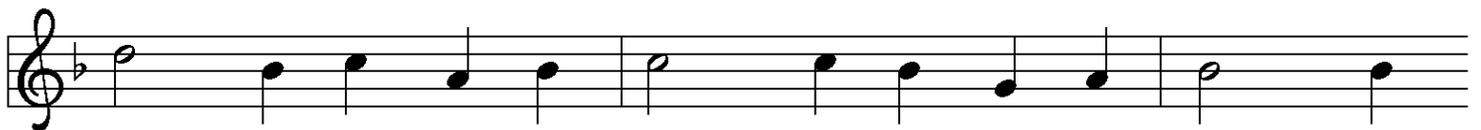
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Please stand.

BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O give thanks unto the Lord.

God's mercy endures forever.

Let us pray. **O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sending

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

CHORAL BENEDICTION The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own,
that I left, that I lost so long ago?

All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know
there's a way, there's a road that will lead me home?

After wind, after rain, when the dark is done,
as I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
through the air there's a calling from far away,
there's a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away, is the call,
with the love in your heart as the only song;
there is no such beauty as where you belong;
rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

– Stephen Paulus

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

Christian people raise your voice!

Alleluia, alleluia!

The song of saints and angels praising God:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluias without end!

As Lent nears we bid farewell to Alleluia, our song of joy. In the forty days of Lent to come, we join in a season of penitence and reflection.

Let us pray. Bless, O God, our coming Lenten fast. Journey with us as we leave this mount of transfiguration and contemplate your suffering and death. At length bring us to that greater glory found in Christ's resurrection. Take us from this valley of tears to that place where alleluias have no end. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 318 Alleluia, Song of Gladness



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Fiat Lux

Théodore DuBois

February 11, 2024

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of their parents by Lois and Rodger Kopf.

Souper Bowl of Caring, TODAY. We will have our "Noisy Offering" to collect donations to combat hunger in our community through the work of GRACE.

Annual Congregation Meeting, TODAY, immediately following the **9:30 AM service.**

The 2024 Lenten brochure "What Wondrous Love" has been mailed to members' homes.

The Lenten devotional "Psalms Anatomy of the Soul" is available in the narthex. This year's daily devotional is based on the Psalms.

February 14—Ash Wednesday: Join us at **8:00 AM** for imposition of ashes with a brief spoken service, Noon for Holy Communion with imposition of ashes with sermon and hymns, or **7:00 PM** for Holy Communion with imposition of ashes and choral liturgy. **Please note the new time for the evening service.**

Soup Suppers: Join us for Wednesdays in Lent for **Lenten Soup & Supper at 6:00 PM** followed by **Lenten Midweek Services at 7:00 PM**, beginning **February 21**. Volunteers are needed to provide soup, salad, bread or dessert and to help with set-up/clean-up. Sign up in the weekly email or in the entryway.

Forum, Sunday, February 18, 9:00 AM: The Anti-Racism Committee will be showing episodes from the series Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man by Emmanuel Acho, inviting us to have challenging conversations about racism in America. Each episode will be followed by group discussion. Other upcoming forums: **February 25:** Understanding the Housing Situation with Vito Gallo (Housing Part 1); **March 3:** St. John's Visiting Professor: The. Rev. Dr. Nelson Rivera (see the weekly email for more information); **March 10:** A Faithful Foundation for Discussing Housing (Housing Part 2); **March 17:** Where Do We Go from Here? (Housing Part 3)

Duo Organists Concert, February 25 at 4:00 PM: Christopher & Brian Harlow-Jennings will present a concert for four hands, two pipe organs, and piano with music by Calvin Hampton, Francis Jackson, and Charles Callahan. A light reception will follow. Please invite friends and neighbors to this exciting event.

Worship Volunteers Needed: We have many opportunities for members to help lead in worship between now and Easter. Please see the weekly email to sign up today!

Fellowship Time Help Needed: Food donations for our fellowship time (Sundays from 9:00 AM–Noon). They can be homemade or store-bought—baked goods/bagels, fruit/veggies, and cheese & crackers are just some ideas. See the weekly email to sign up.

Time to think about Summer Camp: See the weekly email to register for Cross Roads many available options for grades 2–8, Middle School, and High School age youth.



SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901
stjohnssummit.org | 908-273-3846



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 and
All Creation Sings copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license
#9925-S, OneLicense.net license #A-722032,
&/or Church Copyright License #11453771 which
provide permission to podcast the music in this service.