

Transfiguration

February 15, 2026

Welcome!

We delight in having guests and are glad that you have joined us today.

First Lutheran Church

6 Eddy Street
Waltham, MA 02453-7753
781-893-6563

firstlutheranwaltham.org

Follow us on Facebook at
First Lutheran Church - Waltham, MA

The Rev. Thomas E. Maehl, Pastor
tmaehl@rcn.com

Ms. Cynthia Niiler,
Director of Music & Parish Secretary
firstlutheranwalthamoffice@gmail.com

Vicar Trevor Boe, Intern
firstlutheranwalthamvicar@gmail.com

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor

Tom Maehl

Vicar

Trevor Boe

Musician

Cynthia Niiler

Assistant Minister

Inpakala Pandian

Acolyte

Jayden Montenegro

Lector

???

Ushers

Holly & Ezra Diaz

A/V

Curt Schroeder

Altar Care

Ann Sjodin

Counters

Scott Niemann
Ted Sjodin

Prelude: "Beautiful Savior"

Anne Marie David

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

The congregation is invited to stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain

Shine on on me, shine on on me:
Shine on on me, shine on on me:

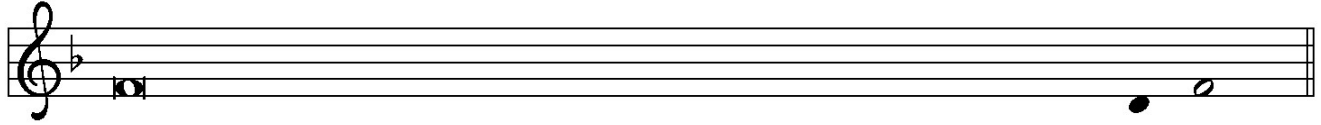
Greeting

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.

Kyrie



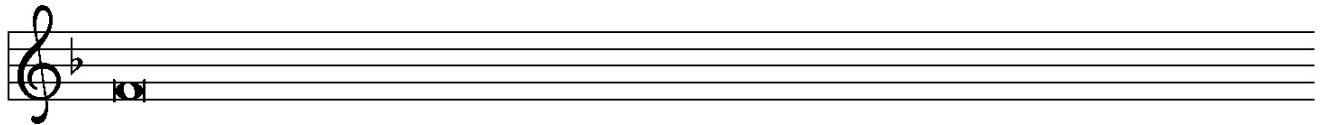
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



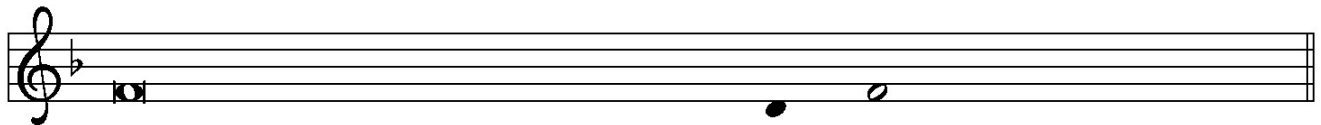
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



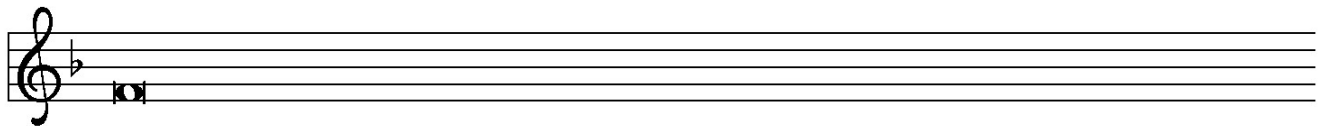
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



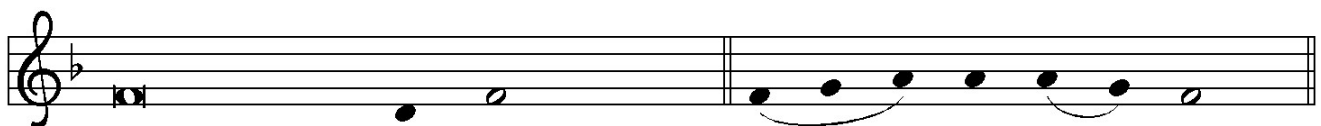
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



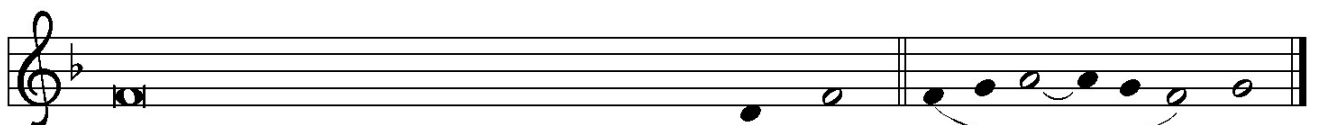
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Canticle of Praise: "Glory to God"



Glory to God in the highest, 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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

The congregation is seated

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

¹² The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

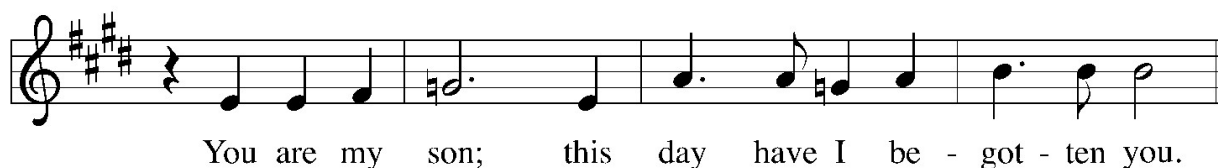
¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord.

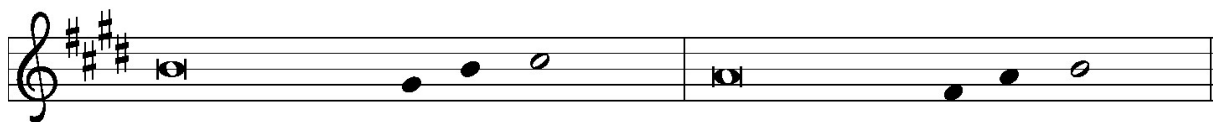
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 2

Refrain:



Tone:



Refrain

- ¹ Why are the nations [|] in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter [|] empty threats?
- ² **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes [|] plot together,
against the LORD and against the [|] LORD's anointed?**
- ³ "Let us break their [|] yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their [|] bonds from us."
- ⁴ **God whose throne is in heav- [|] en is laughing;
the LORD holds them [|] in derision.**

Refrain

- ⁵ Then in wrath God [|] speaks to them,
and in rage fills [|] them with terror.
- ⁶ **"As for me, I have anoint- [|] ed my king
upon Zion, my [|] holy mountain."**
- ⁷ Let me announce the decree [|] of the LORD,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- [|] gotten you.
- ⁸ **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for [|] your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for [|] your possession.**

Refrain

- ⁹ You shall crush them with an [|] iron rod
and shatter them like a [|] piece of pottery."
- ¹⁰ **And now, you [|] kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers [|] of the earth.**
- ¹¹ Submit to the [|] LORD with fear,
and with trembling [|] bow in worship;
- ¹² **lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden [|] blaze of wrath.
Happy are all who take ref- [|] uge in God!**

Refrain

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

- ¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor

and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

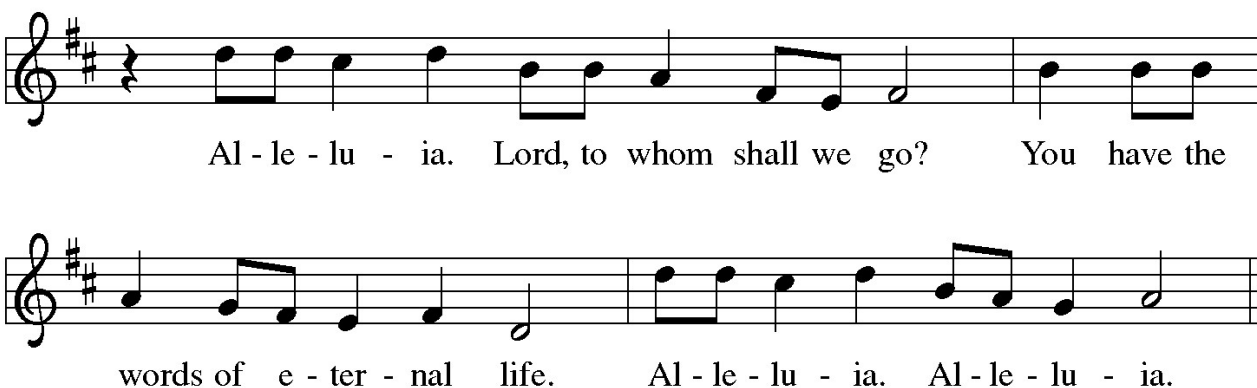
¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The congregation is invited to stand

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated

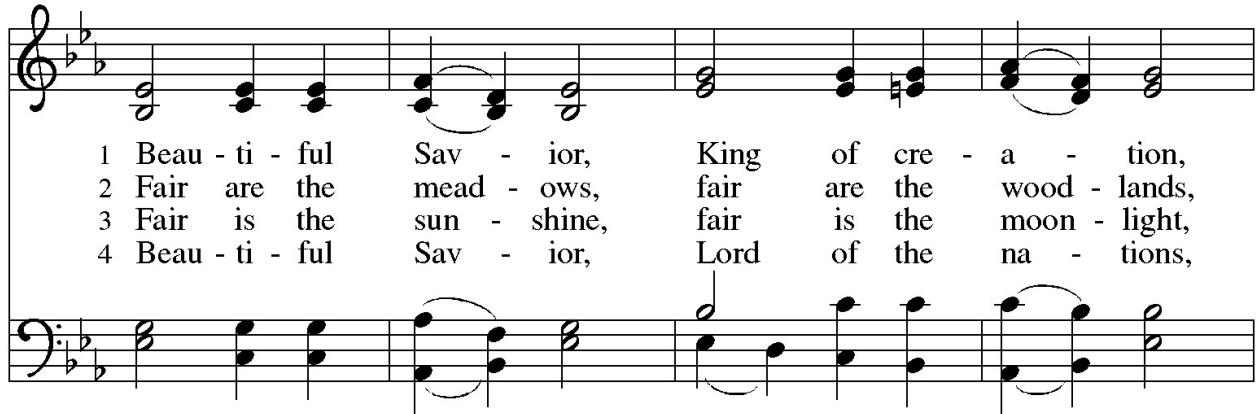
Children's Sermon

Sermon

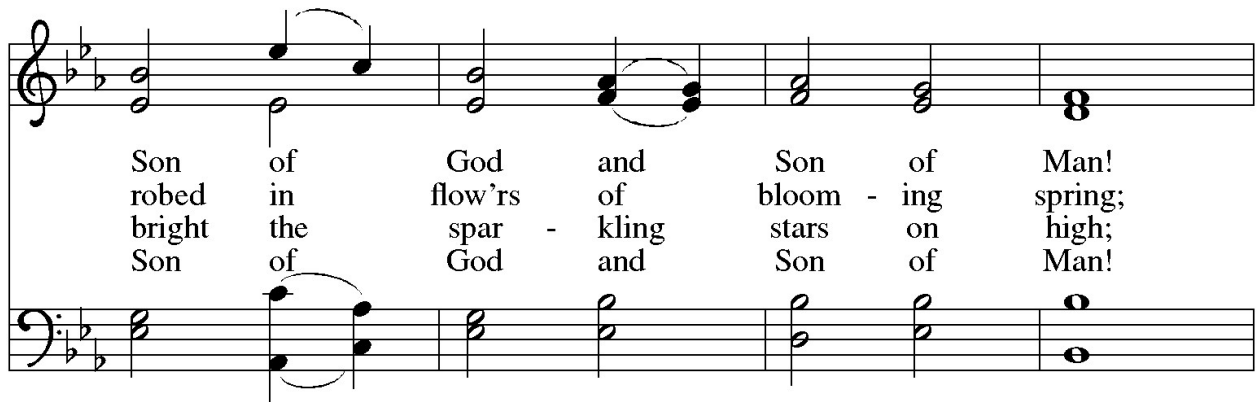
RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The congregation is invited to stand

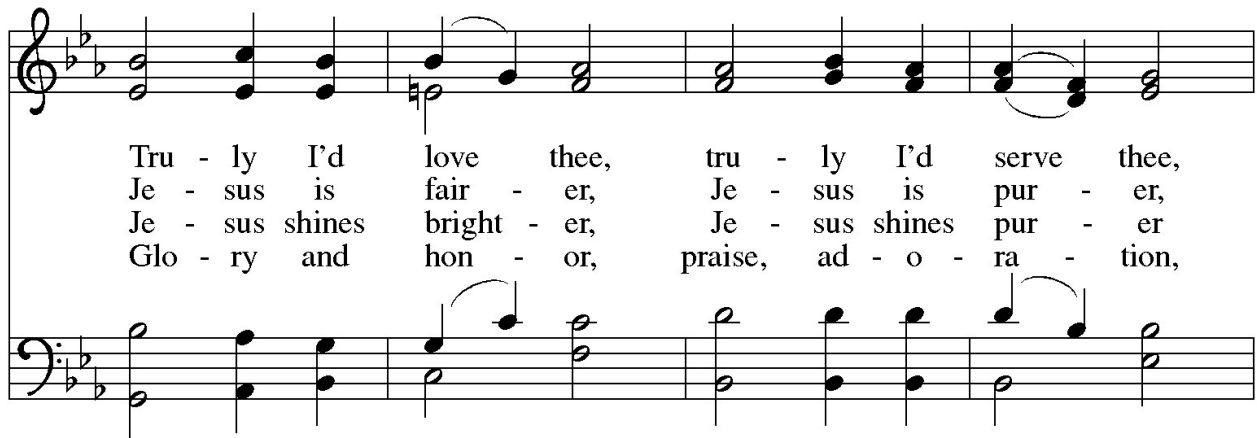
Hymn of the Day: "Beautiful Savior"



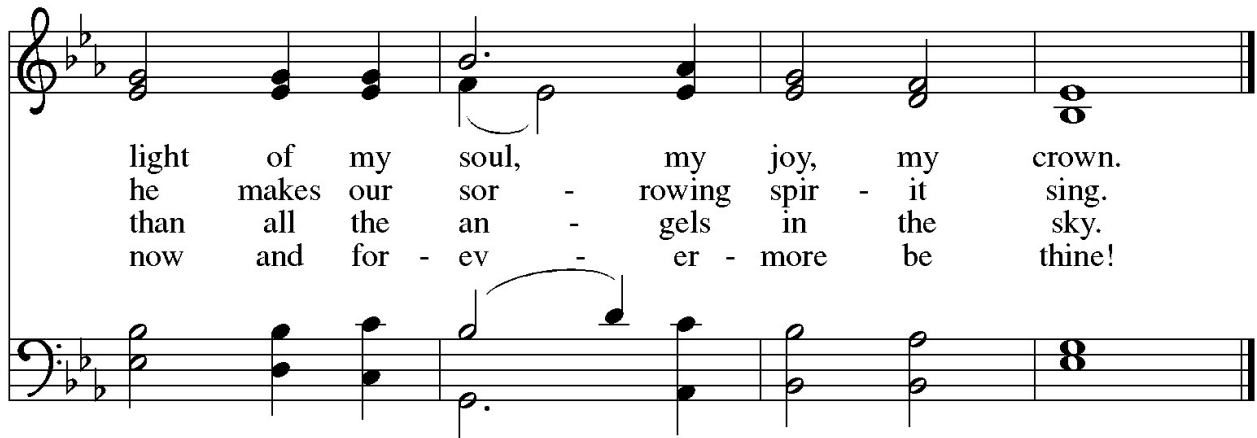
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in the flow'rs of spring;
bright in 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!

Apostles' Creed

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:

Response: Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The Peace

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

The congregation is seated

Offering is Gathered

Musical Offering: "Go Up to the Mountain of God" Michael Helman

Prayer Concerns

Members of our First Lutheran Community: Norm & Mary Ellen Adams; Glow, Bethany, and Roland Adams; Joyce Anderson; Jen Biter; Ardeith Froeberg; June Jahrling; Erika Jerram; Lovequist/Shread family; Kathryn McCowan; Don & Britta McNemar; Kerry Meaney; Cynthia Niiler; Joan Niiler, Stacey Reed; Karson Sprague; Valarie Waters.

Friends and Family: Clinton Braganza; Rhona Chen; Emily Dallman; Evan DaRos; Sheila Dumbrowik; Lisa Fugger; Jay Higham; Josh Kalisa; Sylvia & Chris Lee-Thompson; Nathan Maehl; Pappas family; Roland Pesch; Rachel and sons; Frank Raymond; Lynn Reihart; Brian Schmitz; Roger & Margie Schroeder; Fay Sieving; Wilson Viertel; Chip Weinkauff; Jim Wroe; Marlys Yu.

For our partners: Santuario Luterano, the Spanish speaking Lutheran congregation in Waltham. For other organizations we actively support: the Waltham Family School, the Waltham Community Day Center, Chaplains on the Way, WATCH, Camp Calumet, and ELCA World Hunger.



Another way to collect the morning offering.

Our church provides both spiritual, physical and emotional nourishment for all who attend in person and online. ***We invite you to consider donating*** to support the mission of our church, as we work to support programs in the church, in the community, and for the online community.

You can make your morning offering through credit card by scanning the code to the right.

The congregation is invited to stand

Congregational Offertory



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

About Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine we share and therefore he is the host of the meal. *In his name, we welcome all who desire to commune.*

- An usher will direct you to come forward, and you may either kneel or stand at the altar rail.
- *Bread:* The pastor will place bread in your hands, which you may then consume. We have *gluten free bread available*; indicate to the pastor/vicar if that is your preference.
- *Wine/Juice:* the assistant will then offer a tray of individual glasses (juice in the center ring). The acolyte will follow with a tray for empty glasses. Also, you may skip the wine altogether trusting that Christ is fully present in the bread.
- Children and adults who do not yet commune are welcome to come to the altar for a blessing.
- If walking is difficult for you, please inform an usher, then stay in your pew and the pastor will come to you.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first phrase. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. 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.

The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first phrase. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
our kingdom come,
our 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.

The congregation is seated

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

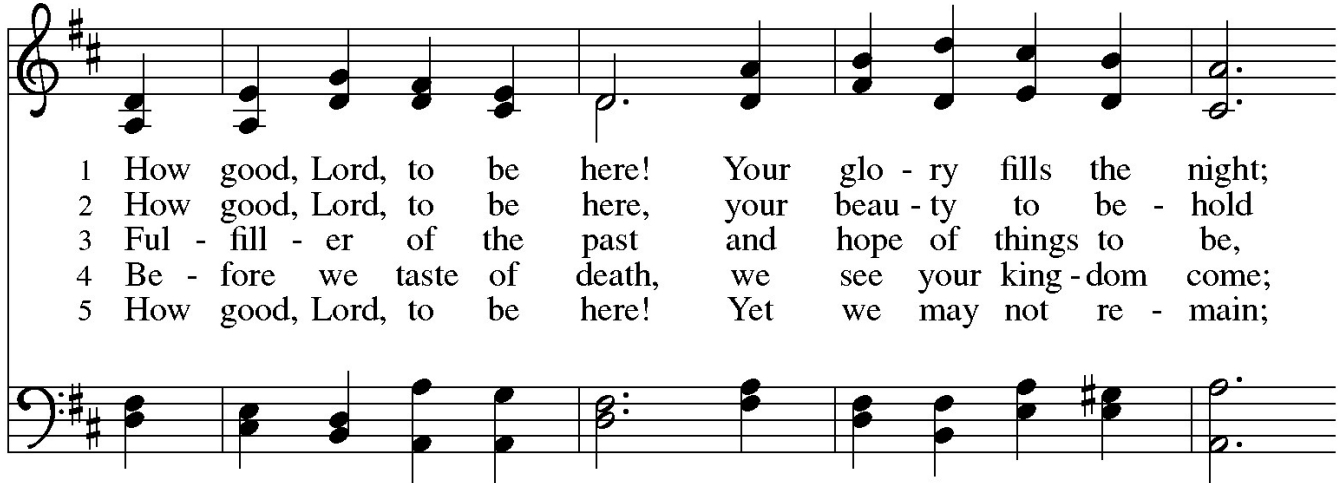
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

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

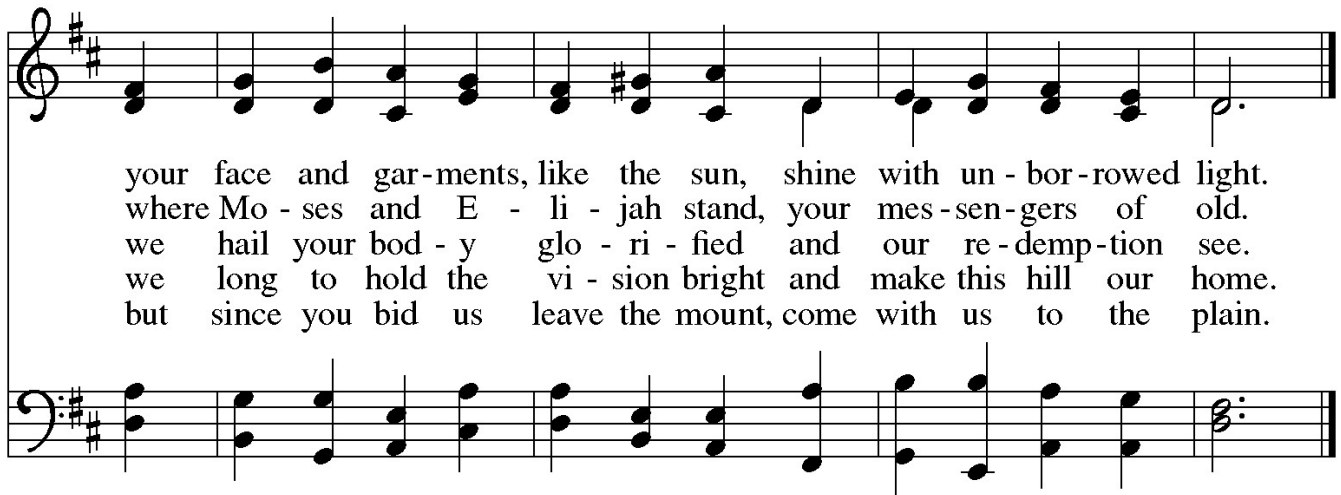
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

"How Good, Lord, to Be Here"

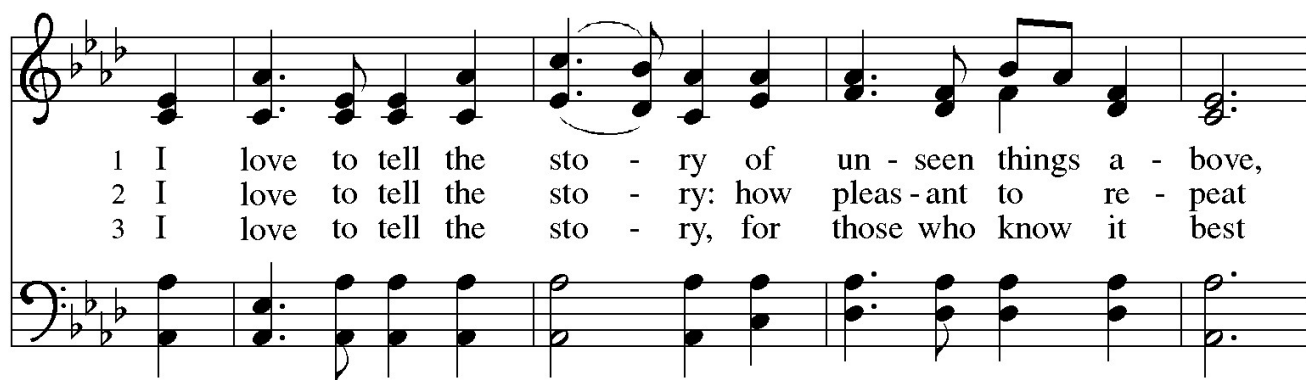


1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;




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.

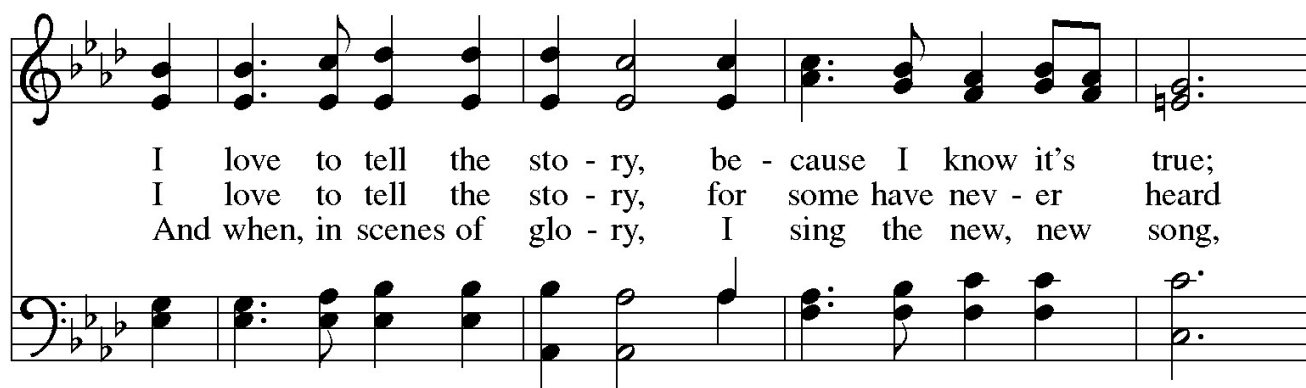
"I Love to Tell the Story"



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

The congregation is invited to stand

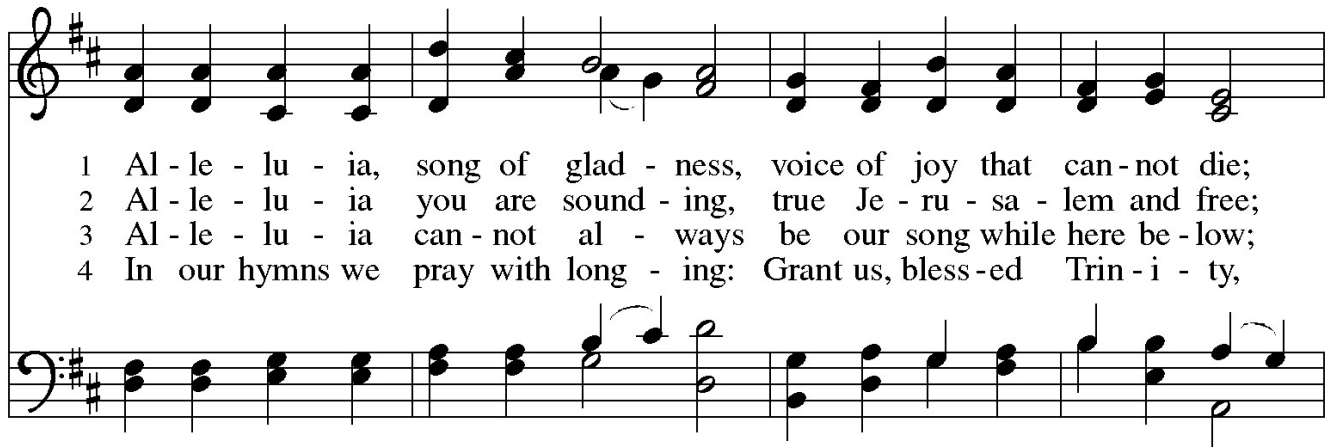
Post-Communion Prayer

Radiant God,
 we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
 In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart.
 Send us from this table with delight,
 that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
 and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

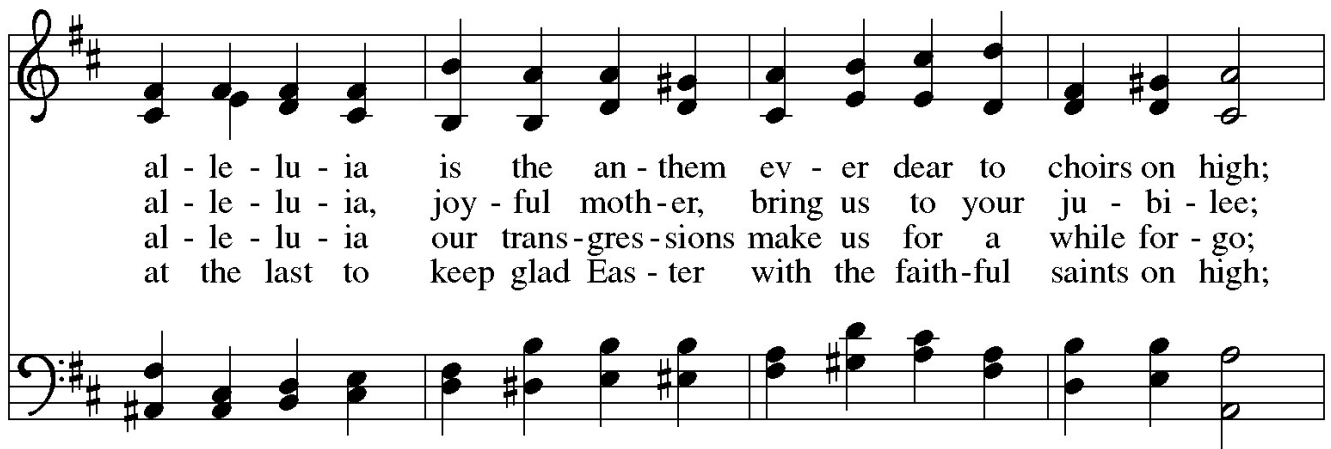
SENDING

Benediction

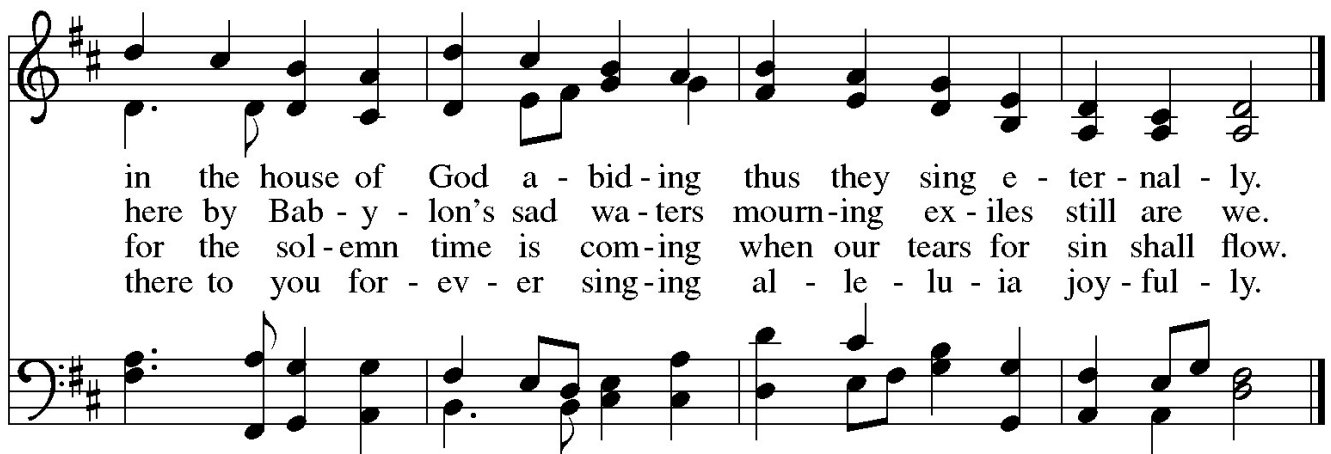
Sending Hymn: "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"



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.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Text and music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

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“Beautiful Savior”

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Munster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here”

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

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

“I Love to Tell the Story”

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Music: John Goss, 1800-1880

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“Beautiful Savior” Anne Marie David © 2014 Augsburg Fortress

“Go Up to the Mountain of God” Michael Helman © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

Join us this week for
Ash Wednesday Worship



Ash Wednesday, February 18, 7:30 pm. Join us for a traditional service including the optional imposition of ashes, and holy communion. You are invited to attend in-person or tune in on YouTube or via Facebook Live.

“Ash Thursday,” February 19, 11:30 am. This in person service is offered for those who come for the Thursday knitting group or for anyone else who might find this service meaningful.

An Invitation to Lent

(from the Ash Wednesday service)

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus’ passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God’s mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection.

Announcements

Lenten Wednesdays—beginning Wednesday, 2/25

Meals for others—5:15-6:30 pm: We begin each week by preparing food for others.

Each week we are looking for:

- a Meal Prep Coordinator
- several Meal Prep Volunteers
- Meal Drop-Off Volunteers.

We ask that people sign up for the whole shift (5:15 pm - 6:30 pm), but if you are only able to make it for part of the shift, just let us know. ***To sign-up you can follow the link in the “This Week” email and fill out the appropriate information.***

Meal, Study and Conversation—6:30 –7:30 –pm: We then will gather to eat (*a simple meal will be provided*), and at 6:45 we will engage in conversation focused on the core aspects of Christian discipleship including: worship, prayer, giving, serving, engaging community, inviting, and working for justice.

Prayer—7:30 pm: We conclude the evening in the sanctuary with members of Santuario Luterano for prayer.

You are invited to participate in all or any individual part of our Lenten Wednesdays.

Lenten Devotional Books: We have copies of a Lenten devotional book entitled, *“Love Outpoured: Devotions for Lent.”* Using portions of St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, this devotional lays out foundational beliefs for a life of faith in Christian community. Pick yours up in the Pearson Room today!

Blessing Box Discussion: Join us in Founder’s Hall today following worship. Vicar Trevor will be hosting a hybrid conversation to discuss improvements to the blessing box (our mini food pantry). If you are interested in supporting and improving First Lutheran's food ministry, you are welcome to join. The zoom link is below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5604985437?pwd=L3JROTYzbmowQ1FzaVJBdk1OTmFtZz09&omn=86019002936>

Meeting ID: 560 498 5437

Passcode: 221548



First Lutheran's Welcome Statement:

Walking together in God's love, we rejoice in the diversity of God's wonderfully made children. We celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and non-binary people and all members of our human family regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, age, marital status, physical and mental ability, faith history, economic status, education, family configuration, or immigration status. We renounce the sin of racism and all forms of discrimination. We welcome all to join us in worship, leadership, participation in rites and sacraments of the church, and fellowship on our journey of nurturing faith, doing justice, and serving all.