

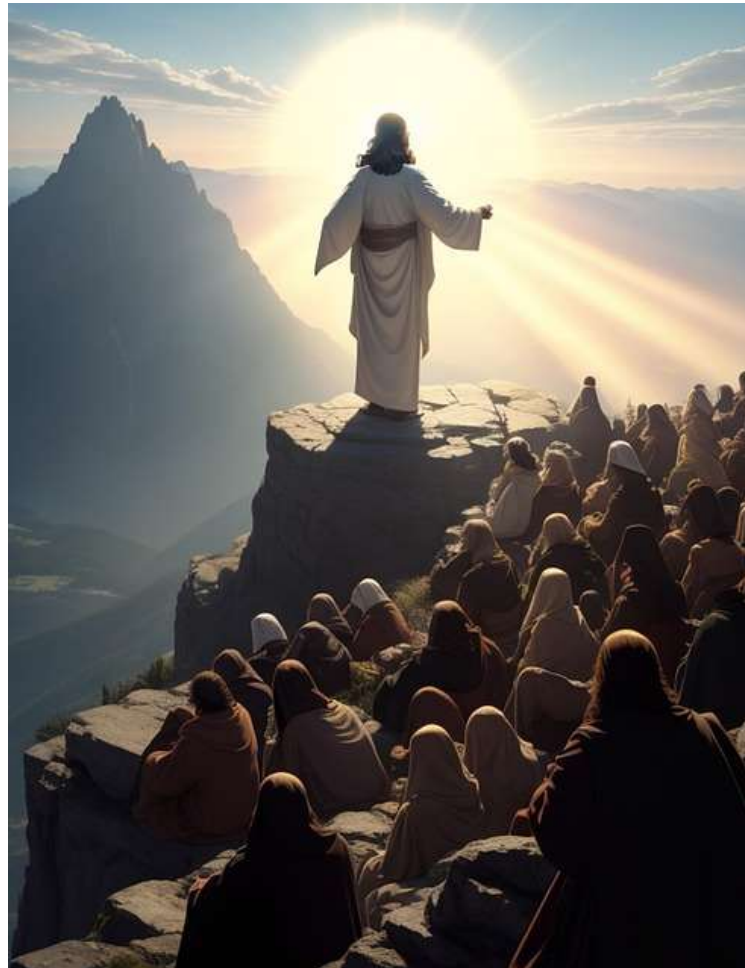
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500

durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman, Pastor

267-664-3160 / pastor@durhamlutheran.org



February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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***** ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2026 AFTER WORSHIP*****

**** Inclement weather date the following Sunday Feb 22, 2026****

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Stand if you are able)

P: 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.

C: Amen

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

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 307

Light Shone in Darkness



1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,
2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;
3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, "Praise for the light. A - men!"
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: LUX IN TENEBRIS, Mark Sedio, b. 1954

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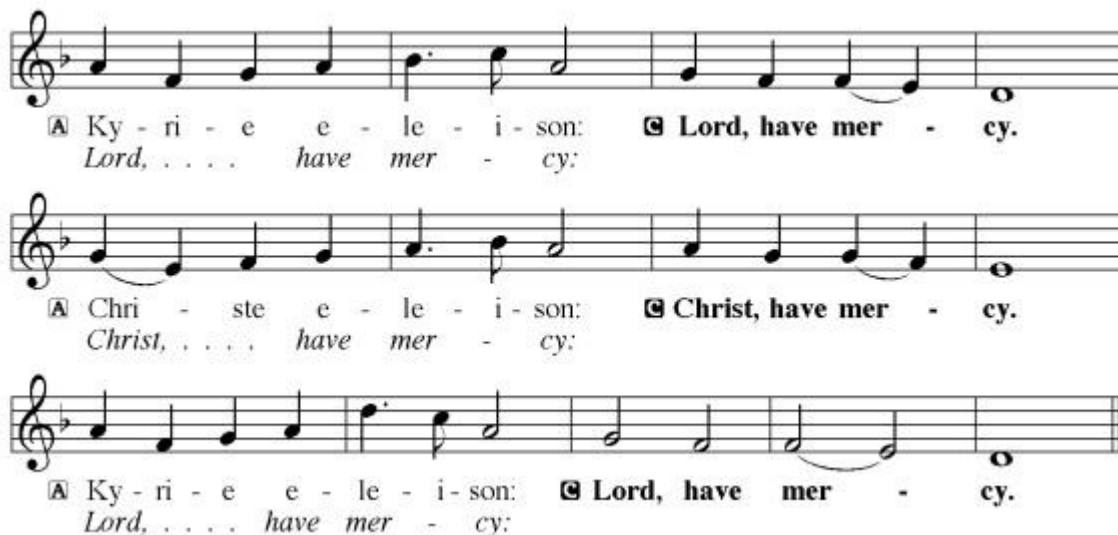
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INVOCATION

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE-



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Gloria



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

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

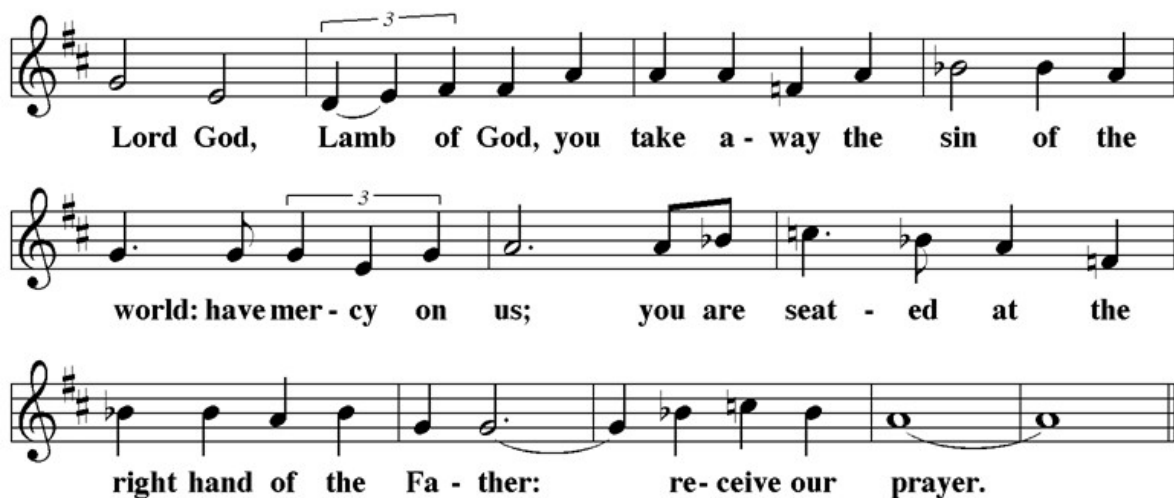
I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

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

II 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.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

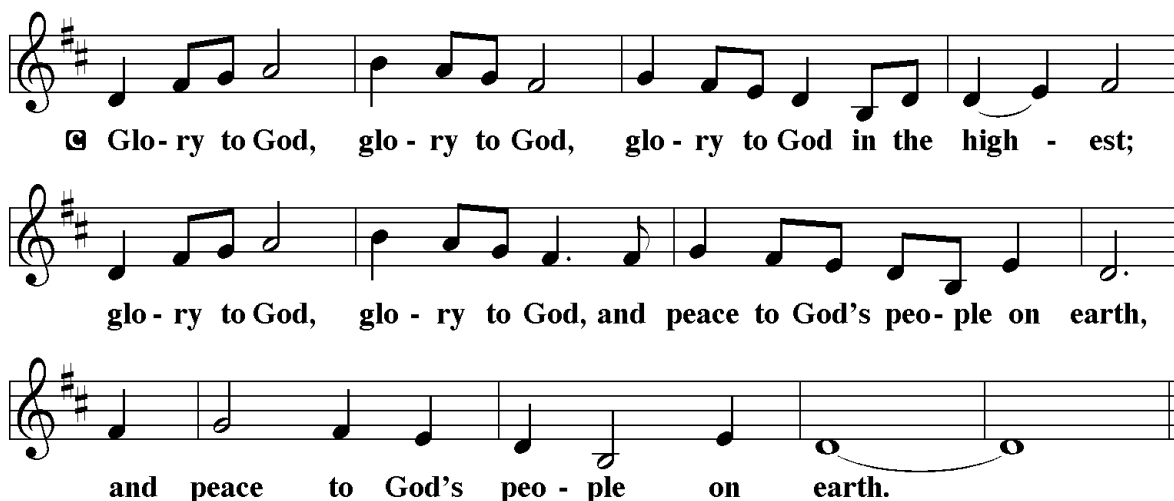
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

II 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, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

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

Prayer of the Day

L: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading- Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

L: A reading from the sixth chapter of Micah.

¹ Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³ "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

⁶ "With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 15

L: ¹ Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

C: ² **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

L: ³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

C: ⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

L: ⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

L: A reading from the first chapter of 1 Corinthians.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

(Stand if you are able)



The Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

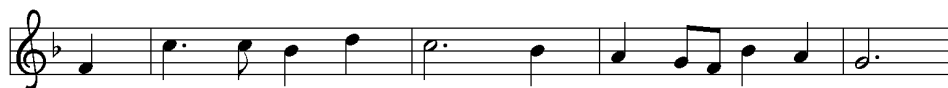
¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day: ELW 651 (*Stand if you are able*)
Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace – To protect the health of our congregation please perform a no-contact peace sign.

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

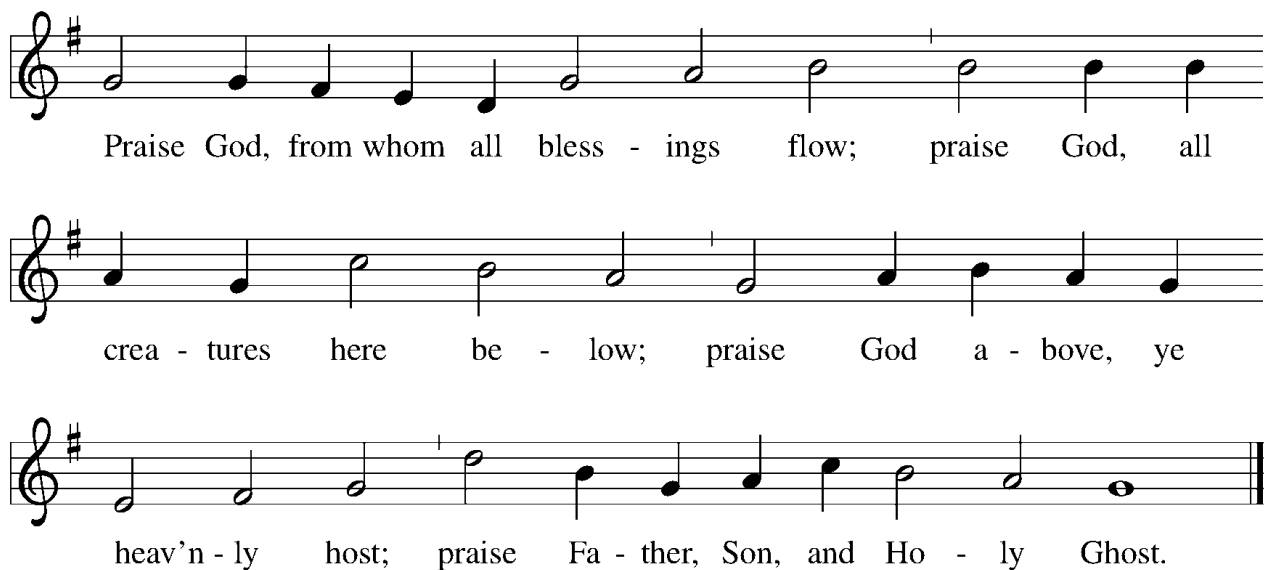
C: And also with you.

OFFERING -

Choir Anthem: "Happy Are the Lowly Poor"- Hilton Kean Jones

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all

crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye

heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Offering Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (said by Pastor)

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

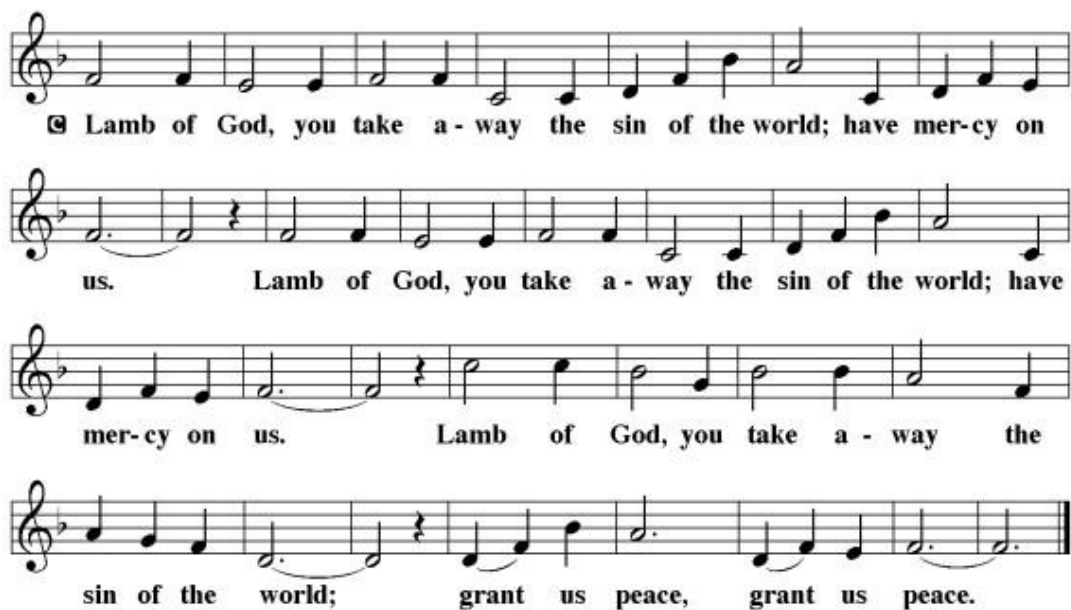
P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.



Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow usher)



SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 715

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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Prayer after Communion

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

Sending Song:ELW 669

Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Our Outreach envelopes for February are supporting Allentown Rescue Mission

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>			
Feb	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
2	Amanda Frey		
4			Laura DeWalt
5	Laura Helfrich		
7	Dianna Streletz		

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH

Sunday, February 1 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	10:00 AM After Worship 5:00PM-7:00PM	Communion Worship Music and Worship Meeting Confirmation Class @ St Peter's Reigelsville
Wednesday, February 4	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours
Thursday, February 5	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 12:00 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM	Office Hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's

UPCOMING WEEKS

Sunday, February 8 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Communion Worship Building Committee Meeting
Monday, February 9	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Tuesday, February 10	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, February 11	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours
Thursday, February 12	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM	Office hours Choir Rehearsal Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
Sunday, February 15th Transfiguration of Our Lord	10:00 AM After Worship 5:00PM-7:00PM	Communion Worship Annual Congregational Meeting Confirmation Class @St Luke Ferndale
Monday, February 16	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Wednesday, February 18	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 12:30 PM 7:00 PM	Office Hours Mid-day Ash Wednesday Spoken Service Evening Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, February 19	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM	Office hours Mid-Week Choir Rehearsal Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
Friday, February 20	10:00 AM	WELCA meeting @ Helen Dungan's Home

Worship Assistants

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Organist and Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Barb and Ben Naska and Scott Gaun
Greeter(s)	
Acolyte	
Lector	
Head / Communion Usher	
Council Communion	Bea vonWatzdorf, Cathy Mueller, Mark Harwick
Counting Team	Mark Harwick and Pat Zion
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner
Custodian	Dawn Margeson



For Healing of those in our Congregation: Barbara Altemus; David Antoni; Joe Hlavaty; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Bradley Mundt; Barbara Naska; Kat Wagner; Jill Williams; Joanne Ziegenfuss

For Healing of Friends and Family: Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Hans Buss; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Christine Connelly; Stephanie Courtney; Dan Crooke; David Davis; Charlie DeLorenzo; Nancy Edelen; Marissa Embardino; Carol and Leon Errico; Barbara Foster; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Michael

Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tim Koplin; Linda Lyle; Frank Manfredonia; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Stacy Mecham; Hunter Nebbia; Keith Newcomb; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Adrienne Rozzi; Connie Rugen; Laurel Sheetz; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Edward Thaler; Russ Trauger; Joe V.; Karen von Ruffer-Hills; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Ann & Henry Wong and Family; Barbara Yob.

For those who are Homebound: James Altemose

For families and friends grieving the loss of: Al Boorse; Althea Crouse, Esther Crouse; Jayne Miller; Dennis Phillipps; Jami Silfies; Jeff Starling; Linda Wetherill; Wayne Yeisley

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: joanmammana@icloud.com