



**Arlington Hills Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, January 26, 2025**  
**Third Sunday after Epiphany**



# Sunday, January 26, 2025

## Third Sunday after Epiphany

### Introduction

*God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.*

### Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Christ, Be Our Light" arr. Nancy Raabe

### GATHERING

#### Greeting

**Luke 4:18**

P: The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives

All: **Alleluia.**

#### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

P: Gracious God,

**All:** have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

*Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gathering Hymn*

**Gathering Hymn                      “Arise, Your Light Has Come!”                      ELW# 314**

Verses 1, 2, 3 and 4 – Large print words found on page 22



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893  
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also, with you.**

*Please be seated*

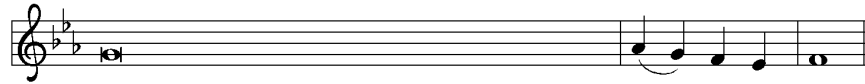
**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



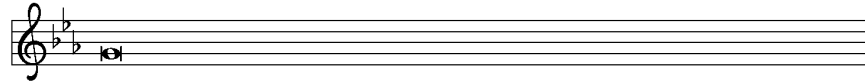
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



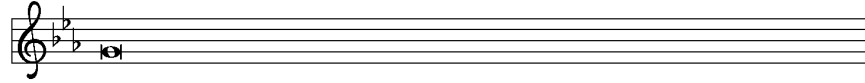
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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, a - men.

# This is the Feast


*Refrain*




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



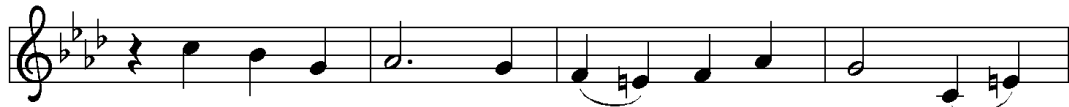
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and




blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

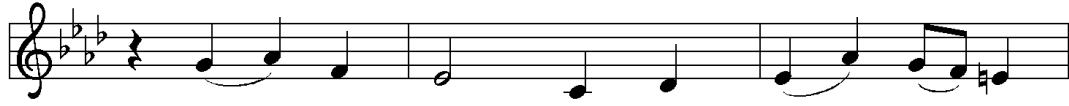


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*




hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

## WORD

**First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Assisting Minister**

*The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that “the joy of the LORD is your strength.”*

<sup>1</sup> All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat

the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

AM: Word of God, Word of Life

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: 19 Read responsively by whole verse**

*The teaching of the LORD revives the soul. (Ps. 19:7)*

AM: <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker’s handiwork.

**All: <sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

AM: <sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

**All: <sup>4</sup> their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

AM: <sup>5</sup> It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**All: <sup>6</sup> It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

AM: <sup>7</sup> The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**All: <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

AM: <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**All: <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, more than <sup>l</sup> much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey <sup>l</sup> in the comb.**

AM: <sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is <sup>l</sup> great reward.

**All: <sup>12</sup> Who can detect one’s own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**



AM: <sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

All: <sup>14</sup> **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

*The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.*

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one

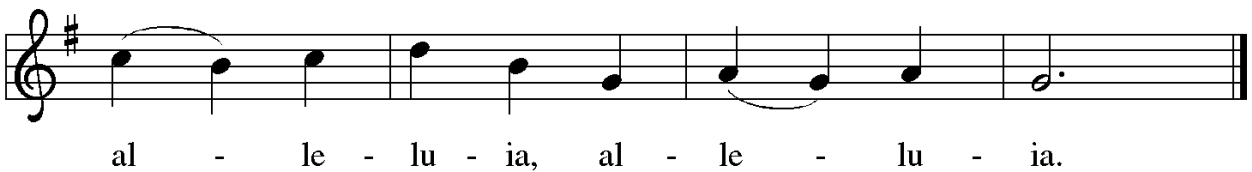
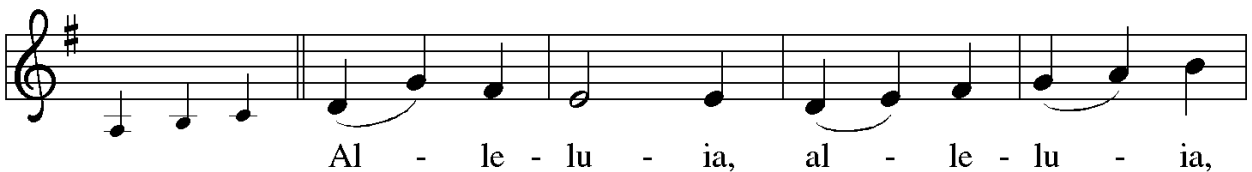
member is honored, all rejoice together with it. <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup> But strive for the greater gifts.

AM: Word of God, Word of Life

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gospel reading*

### Gospel Acclamation



*Repeat alleluia*



P: The holy gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

## **Gospel: Luke 4:14-21**

*Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.*

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P: The gospel of the Lord,

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon          Proclaiming the Year of the Lord's Favor (in 2025?!) Pastor Mitch**

*Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Hymn of the Day*

Verses 1, 3 and 5 - Large print words found on page 23



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for

3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. 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,

wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,

hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.

to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



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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## **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.**

*Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

**AM:** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creations.

**AM:** *Each prayer will end with:* God of grace,

**All:** **Hear our prayer.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All:** **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*


## **MEAL**

**Offering Music**      **“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**      **arr. Zach Unke**

*Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Offering Song.*

## Offering Song

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



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.

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

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## Offertory Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

All: Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Invitation to Communion

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

## Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

## Words of Institution

P: 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

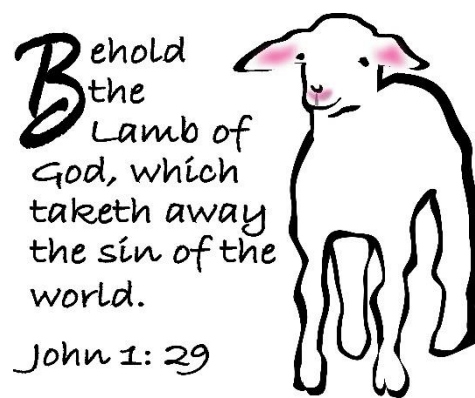
## Lord's Prayer

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

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

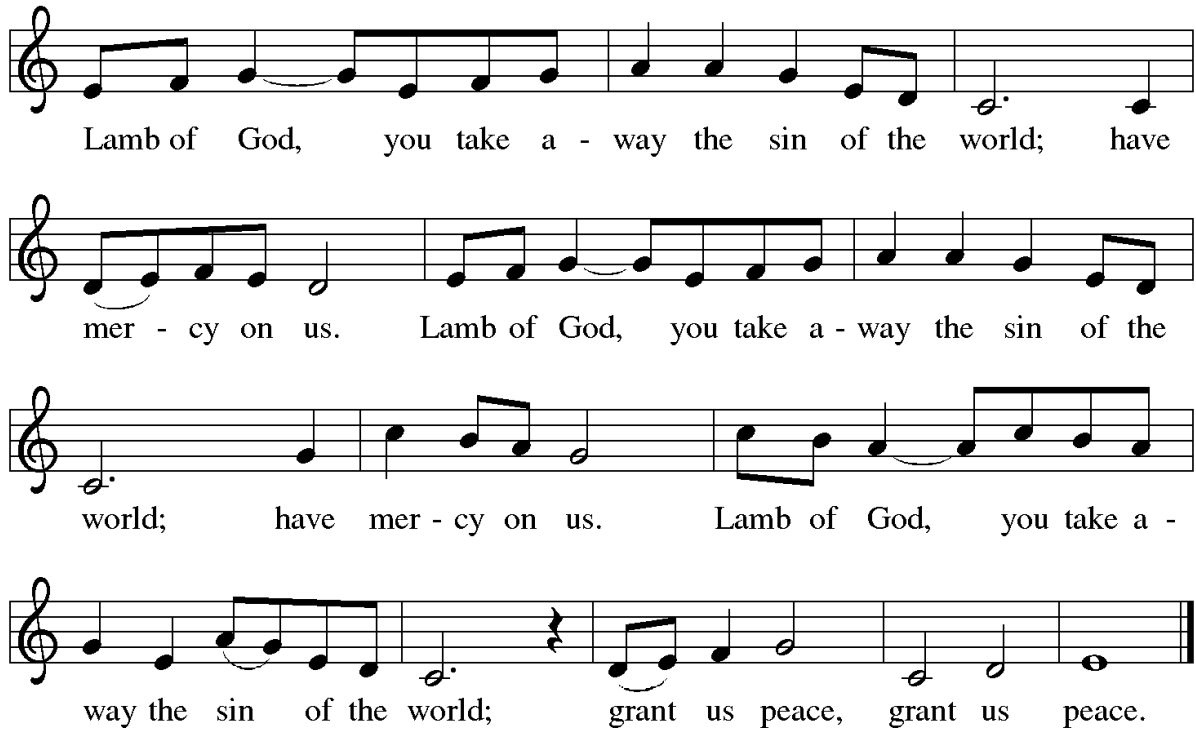
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**





## 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

*As pastor comes down to serve communion you may come forward.*

*Please form a single line to receive the bread from him by holding out your palms to receive the wafer. Once you receive the bread, you may go to the communion assistant on the side closest to where you were seated to receive the wine.*

*If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.*

*Please feel free to say "Amen" after you receive each element if you wish.*

**Communion Anthem**

**"One Bread, One Body"**

**arr. Lynette Maynard**

## Table Blessing

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

All: Amen

## Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

All: Amen.

## Sending

*Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Sending Hymn.*

## Sending Hymn

## “We are Marching in the Light”

ELW# 866

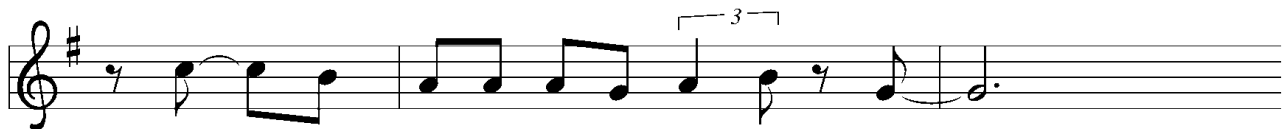
Verses 1, 2, 3 and 4 - Large printed words found on page 24



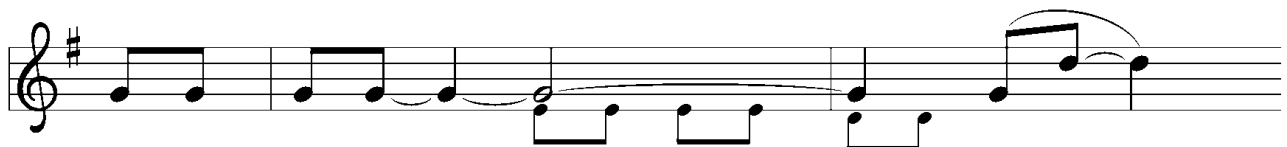
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



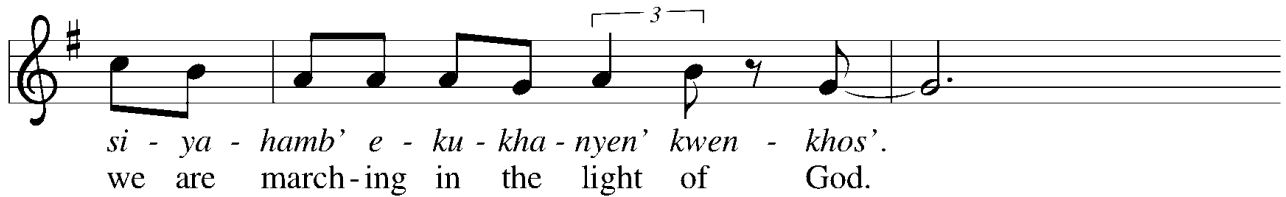
nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

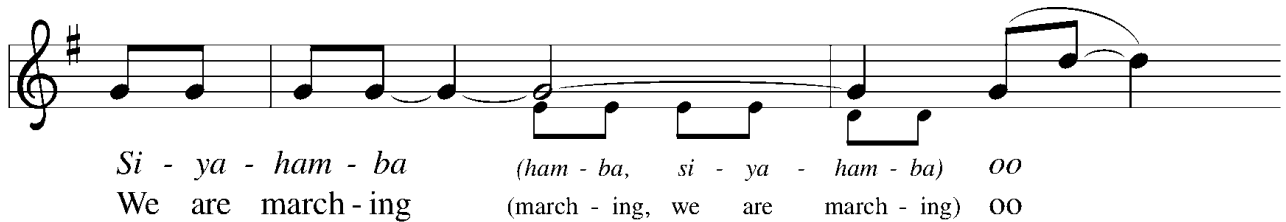


Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



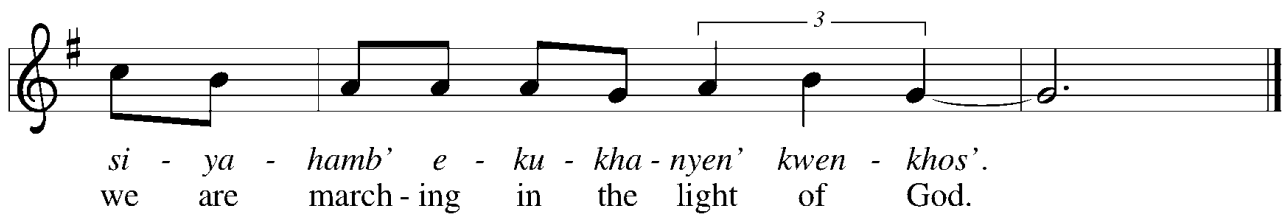
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO

We are march-ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

## Blessing

P: 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.

All: Amen.

*Please be seated for the Postlude.*

## Postlude

**"We are Marching in the Light"**

arr. Carlton R. Young

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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## Leading Worship Today

**Pastor:** Dr. Rev. Mitch Kinsinger

**Organ/Piano:** Barbara Rossow

**Assisting Ministers:** Valerie and Orval Osmundson

**Communion Assistants:** Janine Almquist and Florence Rasmusson

**Ushers:** David Almquist and Elaine and Charles Rorhbach

**Hospitality:** Sarah Jansen and Kathy Brackey

**Livestream Producer:** Silvester Vicic or Jim Persoon



**Annual Meeting – February 2, 2025** following the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service approximately 10:45 a.m.

In-person in the Reception Room on Zoom (link to be sent in an email.) Committee Reports due to the church office by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR AHLK MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**

Dean Anderson, Marjorie Anderson, Sven Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Dave Balfanz, Pamela Boldt, Carol Brockway, Linda Brockway, Carolyn Brusseau, Jerry Ekblad, Richard Edge, Jan and Wayne Frankenberg, Esther Hallgren, Adeline Hansen, Wayne Hansen, Betty Hasse, Patricia James, Jim Jaszczak, Velta Krauze, John Lind, Gene Linderkamp, Marilyn Nelson, Priscilla Reeve, Betty Richter, Marnie Rose, Betty Swanson, Ken Wagner, Gary Winter, and MaryAnn Wistrom.

## February Birthdays:

Barb Watters	February 3
David Almquist	February 4
Elaine Rohrbach	February 8
Carol Krauze	February 9
Carol Brockway	February 17
Debra Gray	February 21

## Prayer Prompts for the Week of January 26 – February 1

26. Humility
27. Praise God for who He is
28. Fellowship
29. Church Sale of Building
30. Decision Making
31. Love
01. February Birthdays

## Literacy Partners Celebration

Join us in celebrating 20 years of transformative literacy initiatives on the  
Eastside of St. Paul!

**Celebration of our partnership with Literacy Minnesota – Open Door St. Paul.**

Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 12:00.

10:00 Reception and Light Refreshments

10:45 Short Program

11:15 Self-Guided Tour

Hosted by Literacy Minnesota in collaboration with  
Arlington Hills Lutheran Church

## **Gathering Hymn**

### **Arise, Your Light Has Come!**

- 1 Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today.
  
- 2 Arise, your light has come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.
  
- 3 Arise, your light has come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.
  
- 4 Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

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## Hymn of the Day

### Christ, Be Our Light

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

#### *Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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## **Sending Hymn**

### **We Are Marching in the Light**

*Siyahamba*

#### **ENGLISH**

We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)  
we are marching in the light of God.

#### *Additional stanzas ad lib:*

We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

#### **ORIGINAL**

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.  
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.  
Siyahamba, (hamba, siyahamba, hamba,)  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.  
Siyahamba, (hamba, siyahamba, hamba,)  
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
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