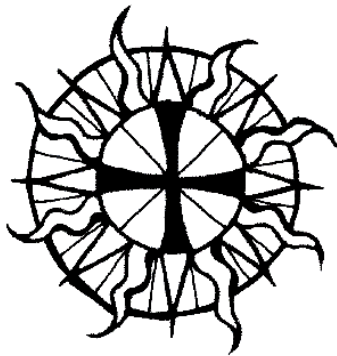




September 21, 2025, 8:30 a.m
15th Sunday After Pentecost



~Sharing the Light with Others~

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Chicago Folk Service

** Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE "Come, Christians Join to Sing" (Mark Hayes)

Melanie Payne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.

Amen.

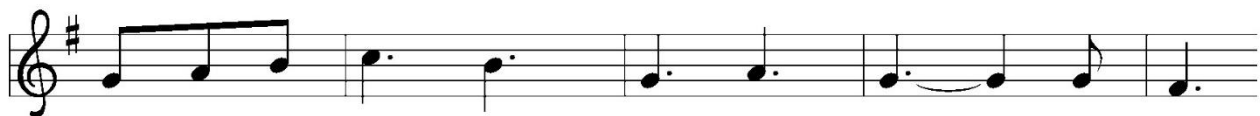
Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

*GATHERING SONG "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

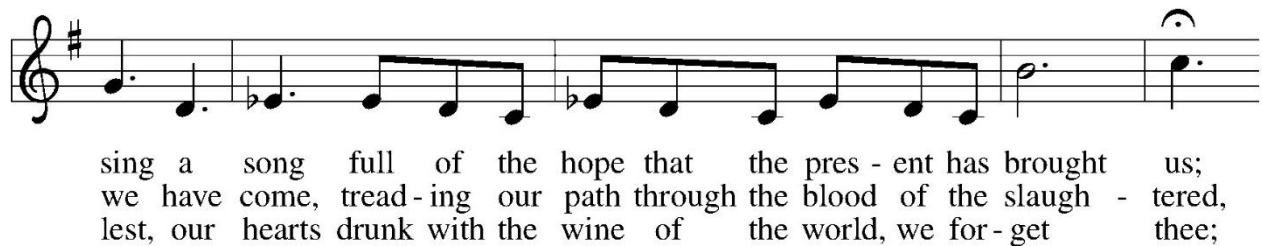
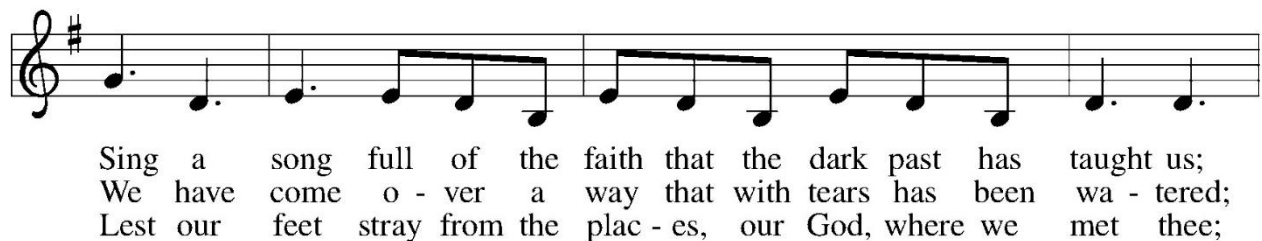
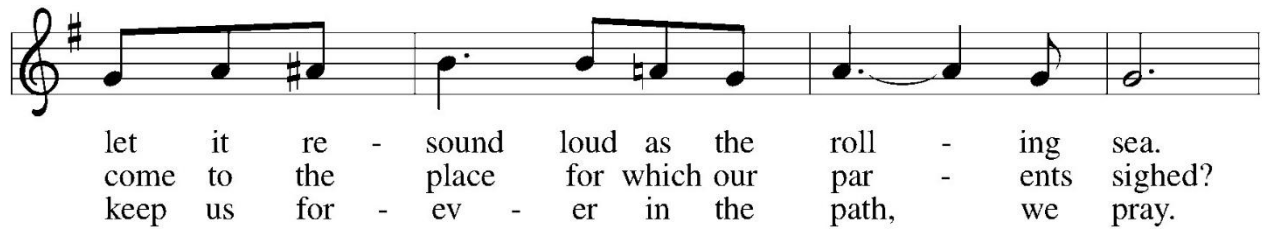
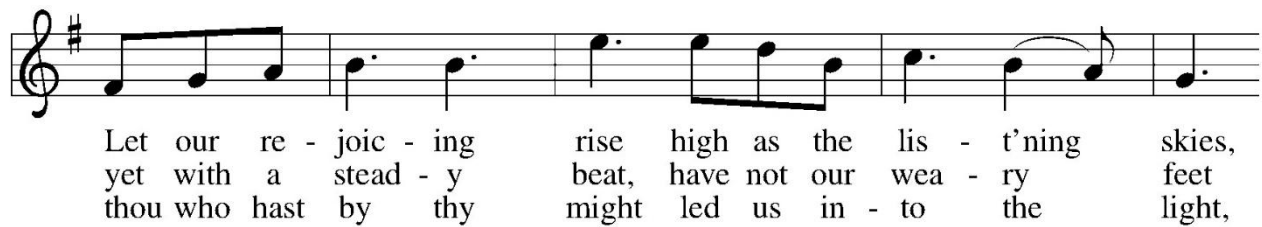
ELW 841



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
felt in the days when hope of un - born had died;
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

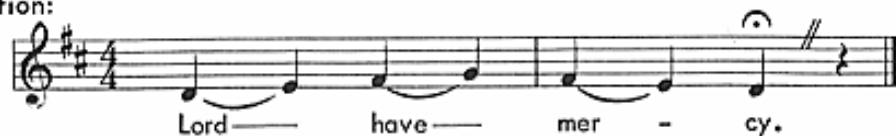


Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Leader: For the peace that is from above and for our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

Leader: For the peace that is from above and for our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



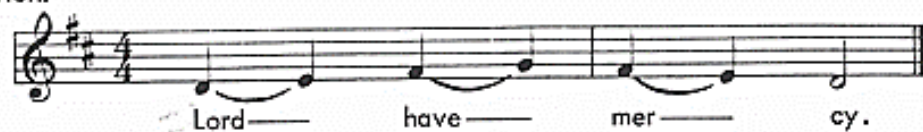
Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the people of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



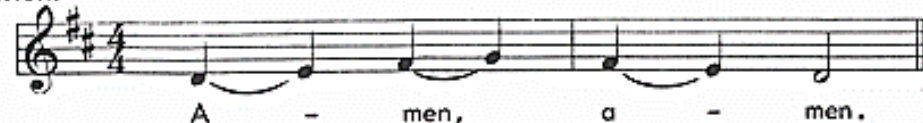
Leader: For this holy place and for those who in faith, devotion, and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Leader: Help, save, strengthen and defend us, O God, by your grace.

Congregation:



***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



God the Fa - ther Al - might - y! O Lord God,
Lamb of God, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther:
Christ who takes a - way our sin, have mer - cy up -
on us. For you on - ly Lord, O Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it, are most high
in the glo - ry of — God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry be to God on high! A - men.

*GREETING

Chicago Folk Service

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation:

And with you, too.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

TEMPLE TALK

Hungry, Hungry Stewards: Feeding Faith, Not Just Appetite

Jennifer Montgomery

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-10

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ "Why do we fast, but you do not

see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator^[b] shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

² **Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ **Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name.**

⁵ For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND READING

Peter 4:7-11

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL FANFARE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Chicago Folk Service



*GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-16

- 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.
- ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

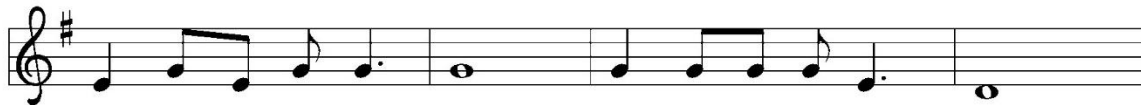
Pastor Kris Schroeder

*HYMN OF THE DAY "This Little Light of Mine"

ELW 677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

*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**

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

OFFERING

Anthem (8:30) "Here I Am" (Schutte/C. Courtney)

Stephanie Pesto, Flute; Choir

Presentation of Gifts "Create in Me"

Chicago Folk Service

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-
hold me with your spir - it free. — Cre-
ate in me a clean heart, O — God, and re-
new a right spir - it with - in me. —

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It includes various musical notations such as rests, eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and full notes, along with dynamic markings like 'f' and 'p'. Rehearsal marks 3 and 4 are present at the beginning of the fifth and eighth staves, respectively. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PREFACE

Chicago Folk Service

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation:



Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:



Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation:



*SANCTUS

Chicago Folk Service

Congregation:



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God"

Chicago Folk Service

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
sin of the world, — have mer - cy on us.
Christ, O Lamb of God,
who takes a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on
us.
Christ, O Lamb of
God, who takes a - way the sin of the world, —
give us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Shout to the Lord"

ELW 821

My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won-ders of your might-y love.



My com-fort, my shel-ter, tow-er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev-'ry breath, all that I am nev-er cease to wor-ship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow-er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



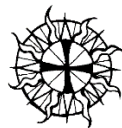
Noth-ing com-pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing. admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP).

c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.



HYMN: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

ELW 789



1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

HYMN: "Blessed Assurance" (not printed)

ELW 638

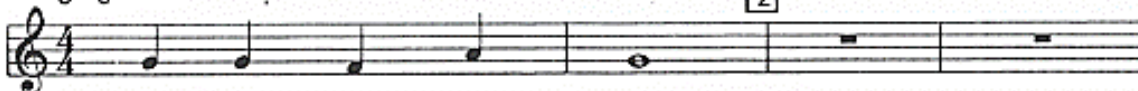
*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE "Send Us Forth in Peace"

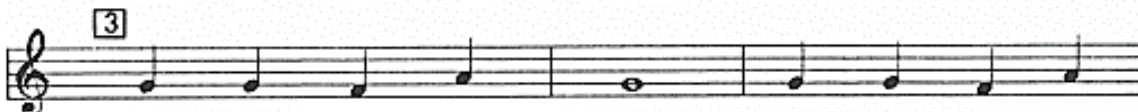
Chicago Folk Service

Leader: Lord, we have your peace.

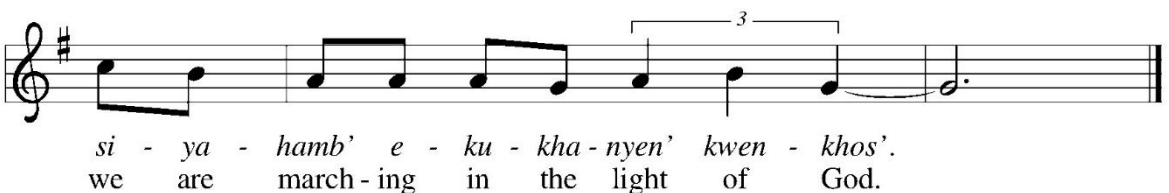
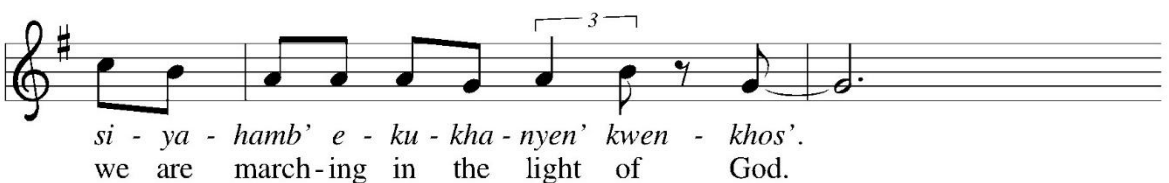
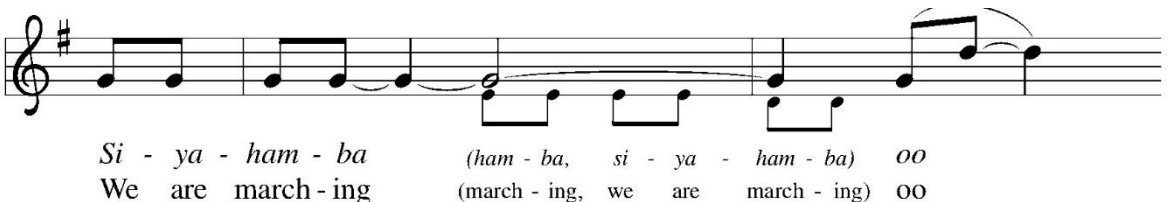
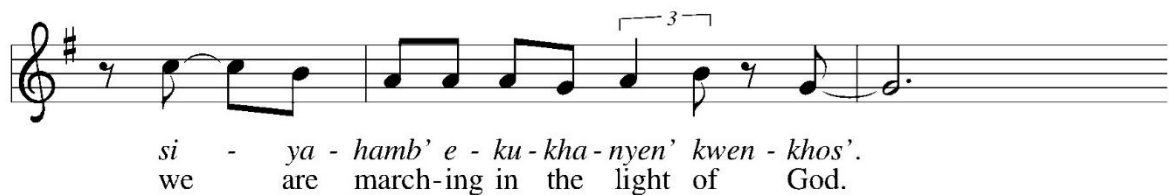
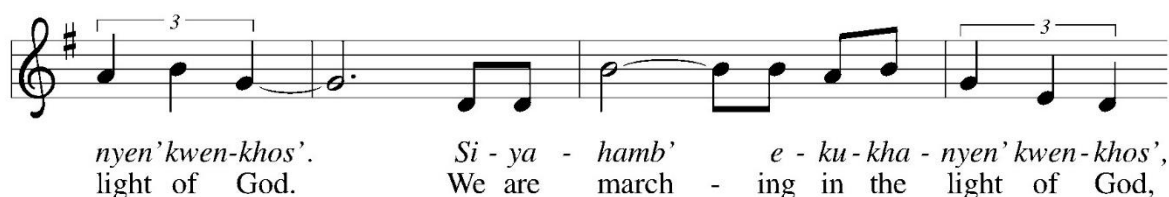
Congregation:



Lord, we have your peace.



Lord, we have your peace. Lord, we have your



Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

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

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

*DISMISSAL

Do not lose heart. Go in Peace.

We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Lift High the Cross" (Nicholson/Lloyd Larson)

Melanie Payne

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Norma Freymuth
Don & Lizzie Palmer
Rich
Lindsey & the Porter Family

Cindy
Kevin
Leighann
Connie Stanger

Stephen
Teresa
Brian Christian
Steve Peirce

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Chris Fossum in loving memory of Jim's birthday today and by Lon and Connie Stanger in celebration of their 40th anniversary.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee and fellowship after service in the Fellowship Hall.

NURSERY is open on a self-service basis until the attendant position is filled. Thank you for your understanding.

MLC APP SUPPORT 3RD SUNDAYS IN SEPT, OCT, NOV. Experts will be available between services in the Fellowship Hall on 9/21, 10/19 and 11/16 to answer questions about the app and troubleshoot for anyone who needs assistance. We are here for you!

4th ANNUAL GERMAN FOOD FESTIVAL, NOVEMBER 1. Excited to host this fun event attended by hundreds from our community. Here's how you can help make it a success again this year. 1) Sign up here to volunteer for the week before or day of the event, 2) Invite friends, family, neighbors, co-workers. Share on social media, 3) Come and attend! Bounce house for the kids, live music, delicious food and drinks to be enjoyed by all!



CLOTHING DRIVE IS HERE! We are collecting blankets, sleeping bags and cold weather clothing for the homeless in our area. A full list of items and a collection box is located in the Narthex.

KIT MINISTRY – Single Toothbrushes FOOD PANTRY – Instant Mashed Potatoes

Acolyte Lydia Reed
Cantor Martin Campbell
Lector Dennis Fry
Ushers Owen Wasmoen

Altar Guild Linda Peirce
Stream Team Glen Long, Lee Seitz
Flower Guild Linda Heideman

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, September 21

8:00 a.m. – Adult Choir Warm Up
8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship Chicago Folk with the Lord's Supper
9:45 a.m. – Adult Bible Study/Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m. – Service of Worship Band Led Chicago Folk with the Lord's Supper
12:00 p.m. – MOES (3rd – 5th grades)
Pumpkin Carving and Lunch
5:00 p.m. – Youth Group Meeting
5:00 p.m. – Cherub and Seraph Choir
6:30 p.m. – Notabella Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 23

9:00 a.m. – Comforters

Wednesday, September 24

5:00 p.m. – Confirmation Class
6:00 p.m. – Wednesday Night Dinner
7:00 p.m. – Adult Choir Rehearsal

LOOKING AHEAD

October 25 – Handmade Market
October 25 – German Food Fest Baking Prep Day

Thursday, September 25

11:00 a.m. – ArtReach
6:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry

Sunday, September 28

8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship BOL With One Voice with the Lord's Supper
9:45 a.m. – Adult Bible Study/Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. – Adult Choir Warm Up
11:00 a.m. – Service of Worship BOL With One Voice with the Lord's Supper
12:15 p.m. – Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal
5:00 p.m. – Youth Group Meeting
5:00 p.m. – Cherub and Seraph Choir
6:30 p.m. – Notabella Rehearsal

October 26 – Reformation Sunday, Bible Presentation to 3rd Graders
November 1 – German Food Festival