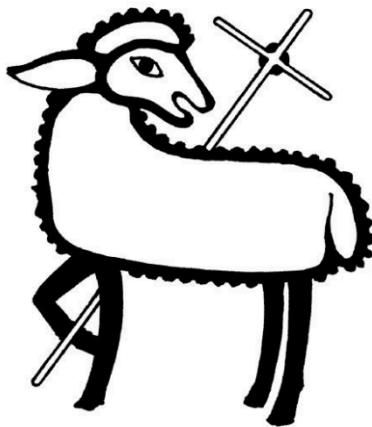




MESSIAH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MADISON, ALABAMA

**January 18, 2026, 8:30 a.m.**  
***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany***



*Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.*

## ***Good Morning and Welcome!***

Guests, we are so glad you are here. Please fill out the yellow "Connection Card" in the pew and place in the offering plate or give it to an usher as you leave.

*Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.*

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | [MLUTHERAN.ORG](http://MLUTHERAN.ORG)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP 2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

## *Chicago Folk Service*

*\* Please stand as you are able*

**PRELUDE** “Be Thou Vision” (Dale Wood)

Melanie Payne

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTERLUDE** “On Eagle’s Wings” (Joncas)

Gretchen Perry Violin

### **\*CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> 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.*

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 <sup>☩</sup> Jesus’ name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

\*GATHERING SONG “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

ELW 308



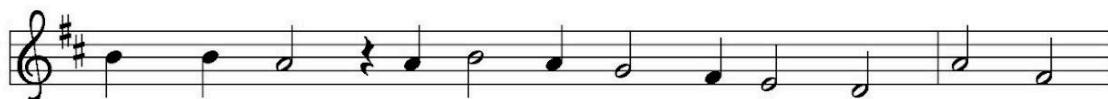
1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## \*KYRIE "Deacon's Prayer"

Chicago Folk Service

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.

Congregation:



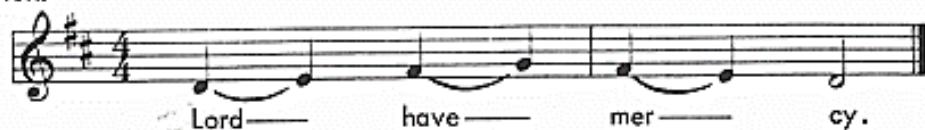
Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the people of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

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

Chicago Folk Service



[2a]

[2b]

[3]

**\*GREETING**

Chicago Folk Service

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation:

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**FIRST READING**

Isaiah 49:1-7

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God."

<sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my

servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

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

**PSALM**

Psalm 40:1-11

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently upon the LORD,  
    who stooped to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,  
    and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;  
    many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust in the LORD!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

    Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;  
    you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, “Here I am; I come.

    In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

<sup>8</sup> **‘I love to do your will, O my God;  
    your law is deep within me.’ ”**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;  
    I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness  
    and your deliverance;**

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me;  
    may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

**SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also

strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

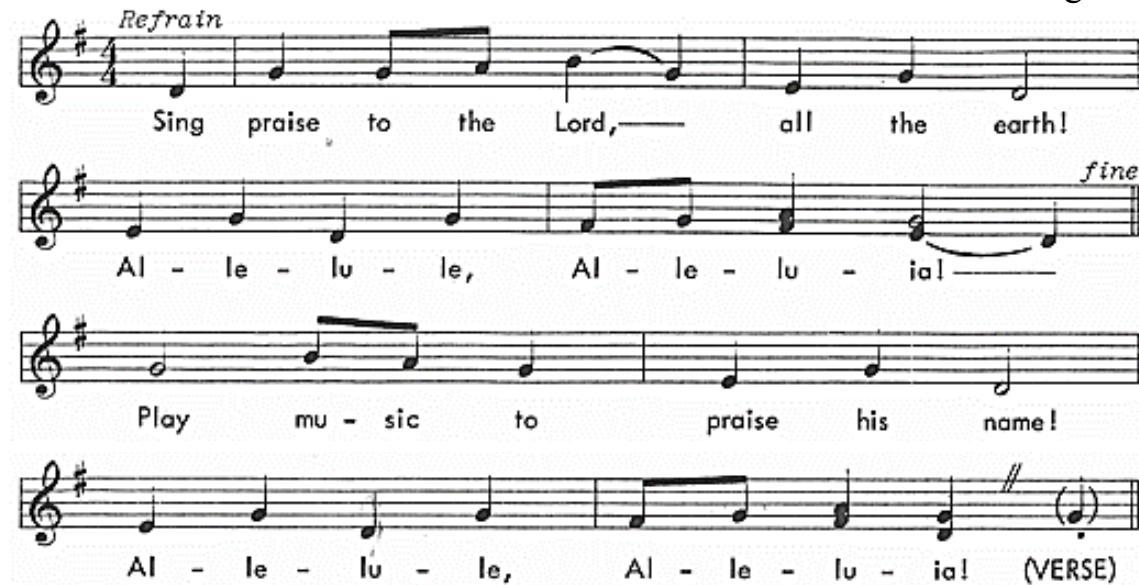
### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Bonnie Flowers

### GOSPEL FANFARE

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Chicago Folk Service



#### \*GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

#### \*GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’<sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”<sup>32</sup> And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.”<sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,<sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”<sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”<sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.<sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the

Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

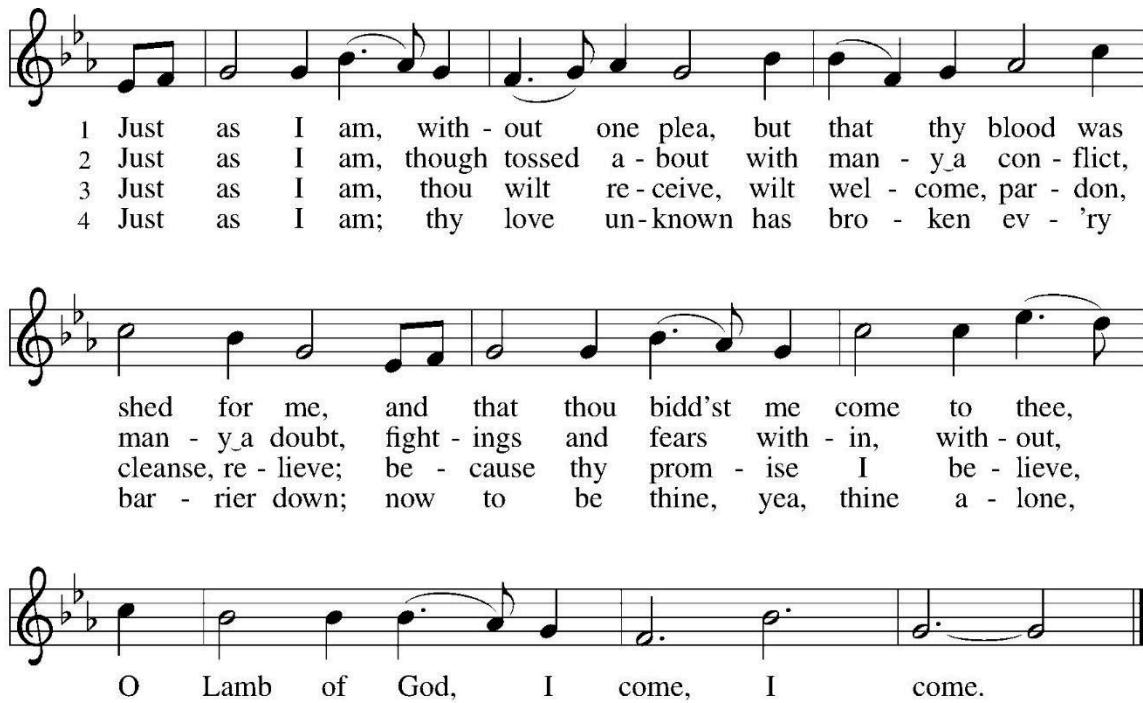
This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Kris Schroeder

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY "Just As I Am, Without One Plea"**

ELW 592



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un-known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

**\*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**

Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

Anthem “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (Grotenhuis)

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.—

### \*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.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PREFACE

Chicago Folk Service

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation:



And with you, too.

**1b**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:

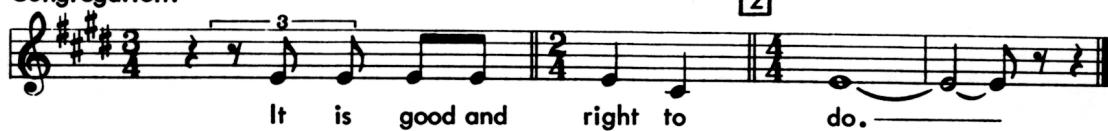


We lift them up to God.

**1c**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation:



It is good and right to do.

**2**

## \*SANCTUS

Chicago Folk Service

Congregation:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of  
Hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

**5**



Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most high.

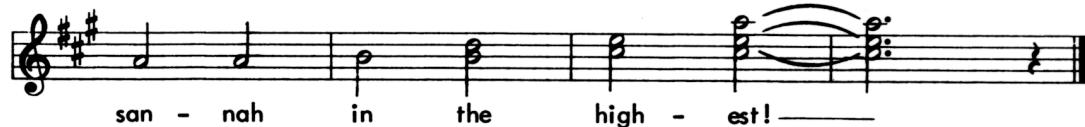
**6**



Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-



san - nah in the high - est!

## \*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: "Eat This Bread"**

ELW 472

*Refrain*

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.  
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."  
*Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.*

Text: Taizé Community

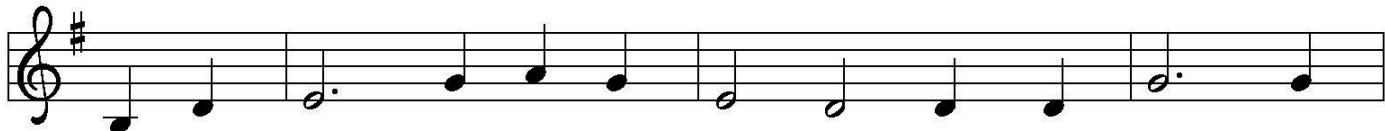
Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com).

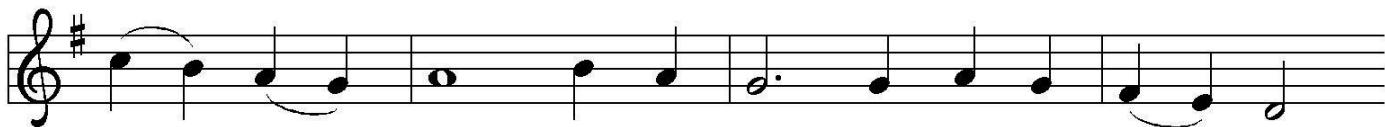
800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**HYMN: "Jesus Come, For We Invite You"**

ELW 312



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,  
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to  
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in  
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,  
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,  
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,  
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or  
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in  
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -  
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.  
se - cret, all shall see what you have done.  
ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!  
rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

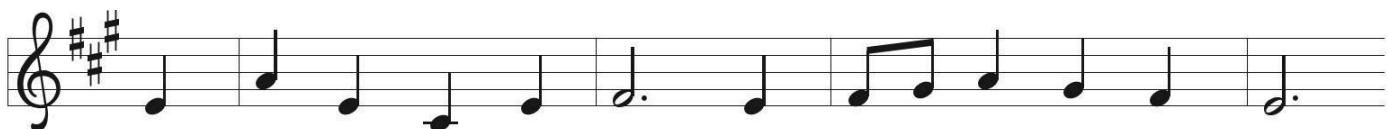
Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

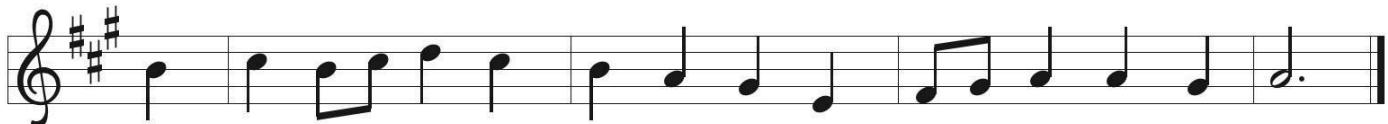
Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

**HYMN: “Arise, Your Light Has Come”**

ELW 314



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

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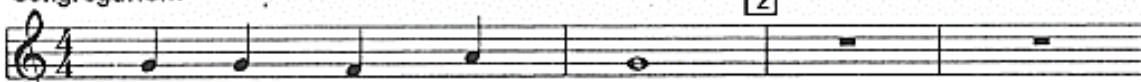
## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### \*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE "Send Us Forth in Peace"

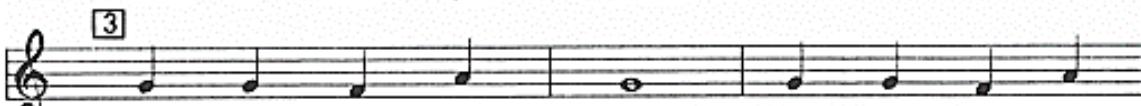
Chicago Folk Service

Leader: Lord, we have your peace.

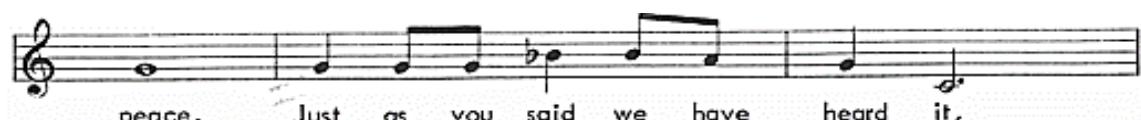
Congregation:



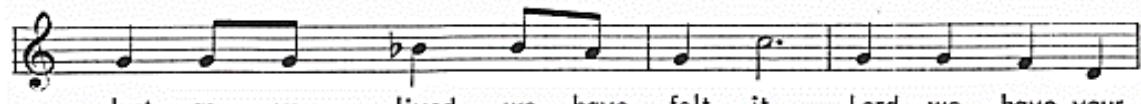
Lord, we have your peace.



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



peace. Just as you said we have heard it,



Just as you lived we have felt it. Lord we have your

4a

peace. Sus - tain us in your peace, O Lord, as we

go to our sep' - rate worlds. Keep this peace with

us as we try to love in our trou - bled worlds.—

5

6

Send us forth in peace.

Send us forth in peace to be a light to show your

beau - ty for - ev - er. —

\*BLESSING

\*SENDING SONG “We Are Marching in the Light”

ELW 866

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

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are marching 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  
 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional  
 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**We will. Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** “Little Prelude in G” (JS Bach)

Melanie Payne

## WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Norma Freymuth	Rich	Beth
Don & Lizzie Palmer	Kenneth	Kathi
Lindsey & the Porter Family	David	Karisha and CT
Kevin	Theresa	Pam
Leighann	David	Peggy Mabry
Connie Stanger	Bryant	
Stephen	Sharon	

**THE FLOWERS** today are given to the Glory of God in honor and gratitude for the 30 years of ordained ministry of Pastor Bill Schroeder.

**ALL ARE INVITED** to enjoy coffee and fellowship after service in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate with Pastor Bill.

**NURSERY** staffed by Hannah Seitz, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

**CHILI COOK OFF JANUARY 24 at 5:00 PM.** Enter your favorite chili recipe and see if the Best Chili or Hottest Chili prize will be going home with you. No recipe? Other items can be contributed or just come and enjoy a warm bowl of chili and even warmer fellowship for these chilly January days. Fun carnival games are planned for the kids.

**INVITATION TO SYNOD REVIVAL.** All members are encouraged to attend the SES Revival Days scheduled for Feb 21 in Birmingham and April 25 in Nashville. Get reenergized, connected and inspired. Contact a Council Member for more details and information.

**ARTREACH COLLECTING NEW AND USED CHRISTMAS CARDS.** Save any new or used Christmas Cards for ArtReach. Drop them in the collection box at the Narthex Mission Control Center. Please bundle any new Christmas Cards with their envelopes with rubber bands. Donated cards will be used later in the year for a Christmas Card recycling workshop or delivered to nursing homes in the area.

**TALENT SHOW Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>** If you have an act to present or art to display, please contact Randall Fields or fill out the form by using the QR code or the link in E-News.



**FEBRUARY 8 IS SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY.** The youth are collecting donations for the House of Harvest, this year we are looking for boxed mac and cheese and cans of soup(Chunky). We need at least 200 of each for them to be able to hand it out. We will be collecting from now until February 8th aka SOUPer Bowl Sunday. All support is appreciated!

**CHECK YOUR MESSIAH MAILBOX FOR 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES.** Contact the office or Mark Neely at [finsec@mlutheran.org](mailto:finsec@mlutheran.org) if you have any questions. Thanks!

Acolyte	Greyson Pitchko	Altar Guild	LeeLinda Baggett, Linda Peirce
Cantor	Andrew King	Greeter	Jeanette Beamer
Lector	Lee Smith	Stream Team	Joe Huwaldt, Timothy Pitchko
Ushers	Bruce Peter	Flower Guild	Jutta DeMarsh

## \*\*CHURCH CALENDAR\*\*

### **Sunday, January 18**

8:00 a.m. – 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  
10:30 a.m. - Band Warm Up  
11:00 a.m. – Band Led Service of Worship Chicago Folk with the Lord’s Supper  
12:00 p.m. – Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. – Notabella Rehearsal

### **Monday, January 19- Martin Luther King Day**

Office Closed  
6:30 p.m. – Women’s Book Club (Lisa Bartel Home)

### **Tuesday, January 20**

9:00 a.m. - Comforters  
6:30 p.m. – Pub Theology (Potluck)

### **Wednesday, January 21**

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

### **Thursday, January 22**

6:00 p.m. - Stephen Ministry Meeting  
6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

### **Saturday, January 24**

5:00 p.m. - Chili Cook Off

### **Sunday, January 25**

8:30 a.m. – \*Service of Worship ELW Setting Three with the Lord’s Supper

9:45 a.m. – Adult Bible Study/Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. – Choir Warm Up

11:00 a.m. – Service of Worship ELW Setting Three with the Lord’s Supper

6:30 p.m. – Notabella Rehearsal

\*These services are live streamed on [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org) and on MLC’s App.

## LOOKING AHEAD

February 7 – Talent Show – serving desserts & hors de oeuvres at 6:00 PM

February 8 – SOUPer Bowl Sunday

February 14 – Parents Night Out 4:00-9:00 p.m.

## Offerings Counted January 11, 2026

Church Ministries	\$7,541.00	Lunches for Learning	\$75.00
Capital Investment	\$125.00	Messiah Mugs	\$20.00
Flowers	\$120.00	Christmas Flowers	\$14.00
Wednesday Night Dinners	\$64.00	Music	\$100.00
Comforters	\$625.00	Initial Offering	\$5.00
ArtReach	\$5.00	Owen’s House	\$25.00
		Kit Ministries	\$125.00

**ATTENDANCE**      January 4 Online: 74      January 11: 8:30 – 74      11:00 - 55

Pastor Kristine Schroeder  
Director of Music Randall Fields  
Organist/Accompanist Melanie Payne

Office Manager Jill Casey  
Communications Director Jan Morrison  
Information Technology Chris Elegante