

# The Baptism Of our Lord January 12, 2025



## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.  
**Amen.**

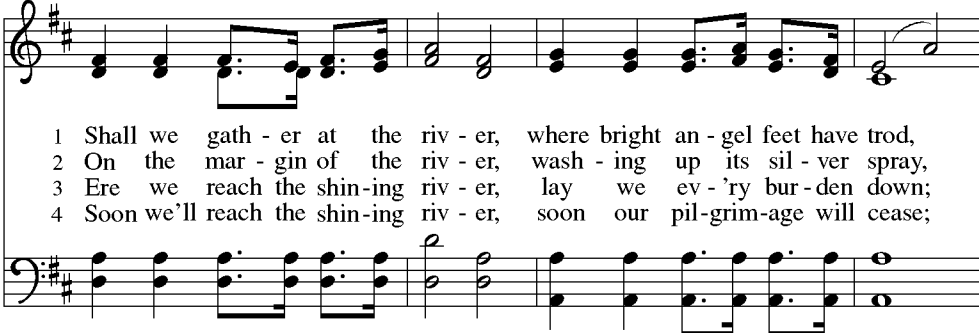
Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**  
**Forgive us for the ways we act**  
**with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**  
**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;**  
**we resist your call to oppose injustice;**  
**we give in to scarcity and fear;**  
**we assume the worst about one another.**  
**Cleanse us from our faults**  
**and release us from their grasp.**  
**Show us your lovingkindness.**  
**Restore our hearts and repair your world,**  
**that we may live in Christ's ways.**  
**Amen.**

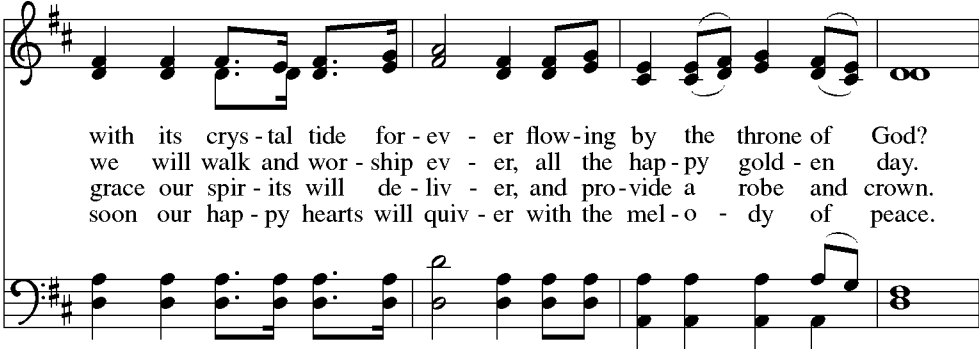
God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.  
**Amen.**

# ENTRANCE HYMN – SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER (WOV 690)

## Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;  
4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

*Refrain*



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



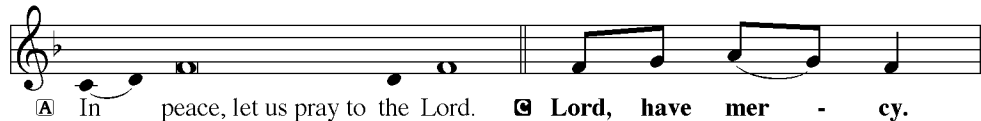
gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

## GREETING

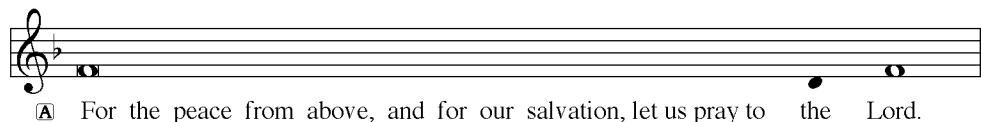
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

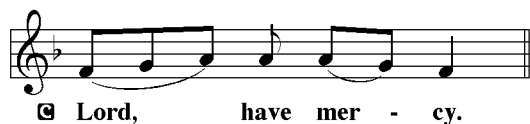
## KYRIE



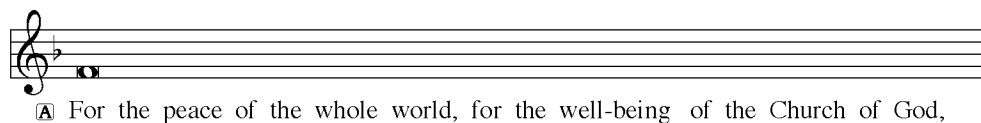
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



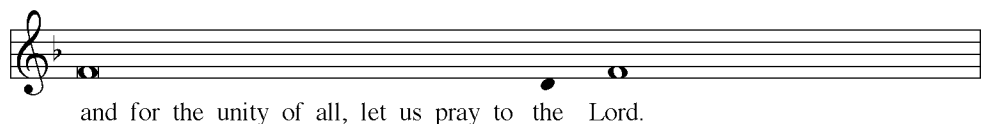
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



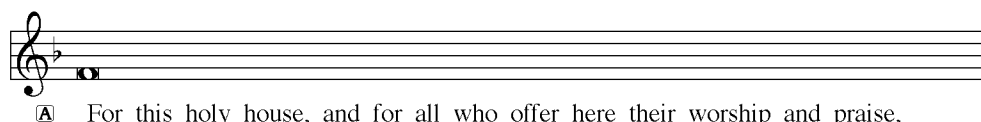
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



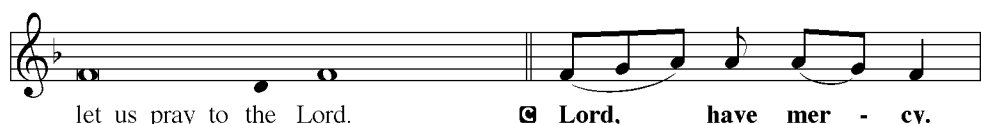
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

## HYMN OF PRAISE



♩ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



♩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



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



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



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



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you / **And also with you** / Let us Pray...

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD

### First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

- <sup>1</sup> But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.
- <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.
- <sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
- <sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.
- <sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;
- <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- <sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 29 (Read responsively by whole verse)**

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup> **The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**
- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup> **the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- <sup>7</sup> The voice of the Lord  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

**10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O Lord, give strength to your people;  
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

## Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

<sup>14</sup>Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 3rd Chapter.



## Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Reverend Rick Neu

HYMN OF THE DAY – I’VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I’ve Got Peace like a River

1 I’ve got peace like a riv - er, I’ve got peace like a riv - er,  
2 I’ve got joy like a foun-tain, I’ve got joy like a foun-tain,  
3 I’ve got love like an o - cean, I’ve got love like an o - cean,

I’ve got peace like a riv - er in my soul;  
I’ve got joy like a foun-tain in my soul;  
I’ve got love like an o - cean in my soul;

I’ve got peace like a riv - er, I’ve got peace like a riv - er,  
I’ve got joy like a foun-tain, I’ve got joy like a foun-tain,  
I’ve got love like an o - cean, I’ve got love like an o - cean,

I’ve got peace like a riv - er in my soul.  
I’ve got joy like a foun-tain in my soul.  
I’ve got love like an o - cean in my soul.

## THE 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 into hell.\***

**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

Let us draw near to the Throne of Grace, offering prayer and supplication on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another. *A brief silence*

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us a glimpse into the mystery of the Trinity in the Baptism of your beloved Son. Thank you for uniting us to him, in the power of the heaven-descended Dove. Thank you for naming us your beloved children, in our own Baptism. Give us grace to live lives well-pleasing to you. Let all of our thoughts, words, and deeds cry "Glory!" Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Through your holy Church, let the world hear the thunder of your voice and know the beauty of your holiness. Strengthen and defend all who suffer for confessing Jesus as Lord. Fulfill among them your promise that the flames of persecution should not burn them, nor the waters of death carry them away from you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who are baptized or reaffirming their baptismal covenant today. Stir up your Spirit in them, that they may be freed from sin, united to Christ, and named as your children forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people and the ministry of this congregation. Make us dead to sin and alive to you in Christ. Burn away the chaff from our hearts. Gather up and sanctify all that you have cleansed. Help us share with family and friends the goodness of the new life we have in our Savior. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



Protect, purify, and guide the leaders of all nations, especially our own. Establish peace, wisdom, and righteousness among us. Keep watch over those who walk through the floods of violence and the flames of war to defend us. Conform their decisions, words, and actions to your will. Bring them home safely and soon. Bring healing to communities wounded by violence and fractured by injustice and hatred.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Say to all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, "Do not fear, for I am with you." Especially we name before you either silently or aloud....Gather them from the far reaches of suffering and sorrow; restore them to all who love them; and remind them always that they are precious in your sight. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We remember before you our loved ones whom you have delivered from the waters of death. You have also called us by name, and made us your own in Baptism. Keep us united with Jesus. Strengthen us by your Spirit to daily walk in the newness of his life. At the last, say to us and to all whom you name as your own, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.<sup>4</sup> You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.' Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Graciously hear, and generously answer our prayers, dear Father, in accordance with your wisdom and mercy for us. We pray in the name of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

### PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**(If you choose to exchange the peace, please use hand sanitizer before you start and again when finished.)**

### OFFERTORY

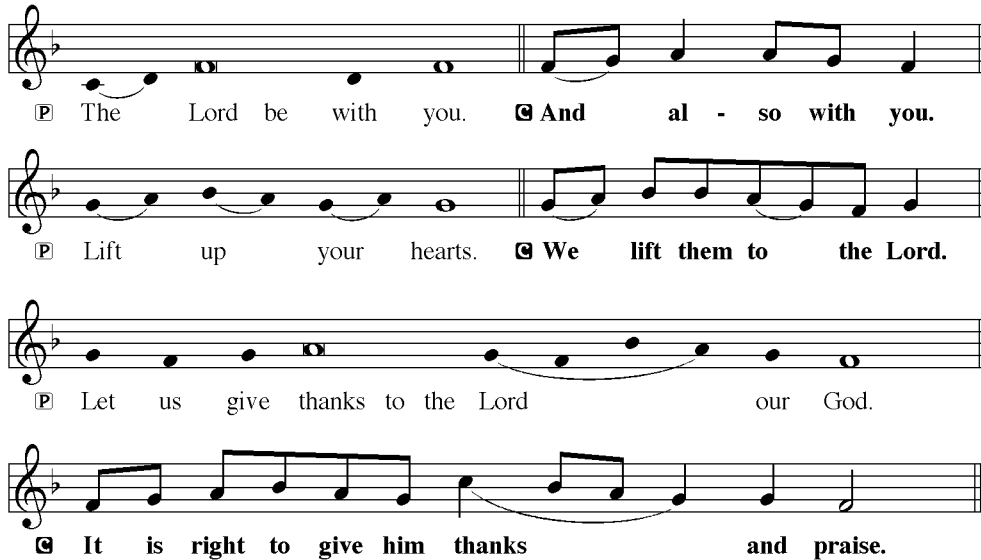
#### Offertory hymn - Let the Vineyards

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



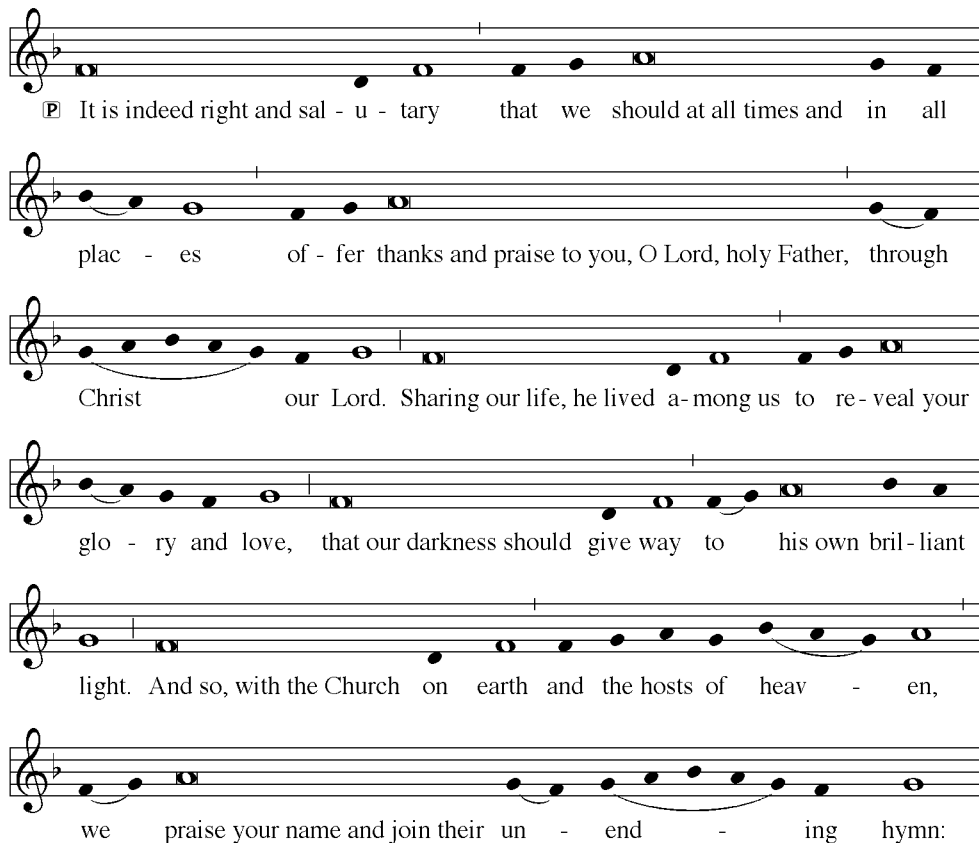
Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

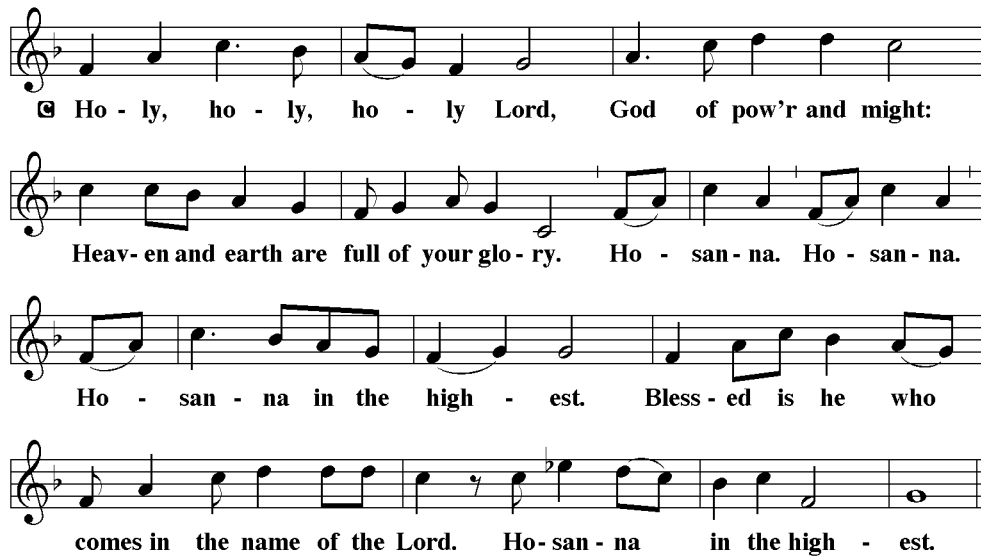
Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PREFACE



Ⓟ It is indeed right and sal - u - tary that we should at all times and in all plac - es of - fer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived a - mong us to re - veal your glo - ry and love, that our darkness should give way to his own bril - liant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heav - en, we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san- na. Ho - san- na.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God:  
 you are the Life and Light of all.  
 By your powerful word you created all things.  
 Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.  
 Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.  
 He is your Light, shining in our darkness  
 and revealing to us your mercy and might.  
 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 preaching and healing,  
 his dying and rising,  
 and his promise to come again,  
 we await that day when all the universe  
 will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.  
 By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
 that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
 we may be light for the world,  
 revealing the brilliance of your Son.  
 Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
 Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
 in your holy Church,  
 both now and forever. **Amen**

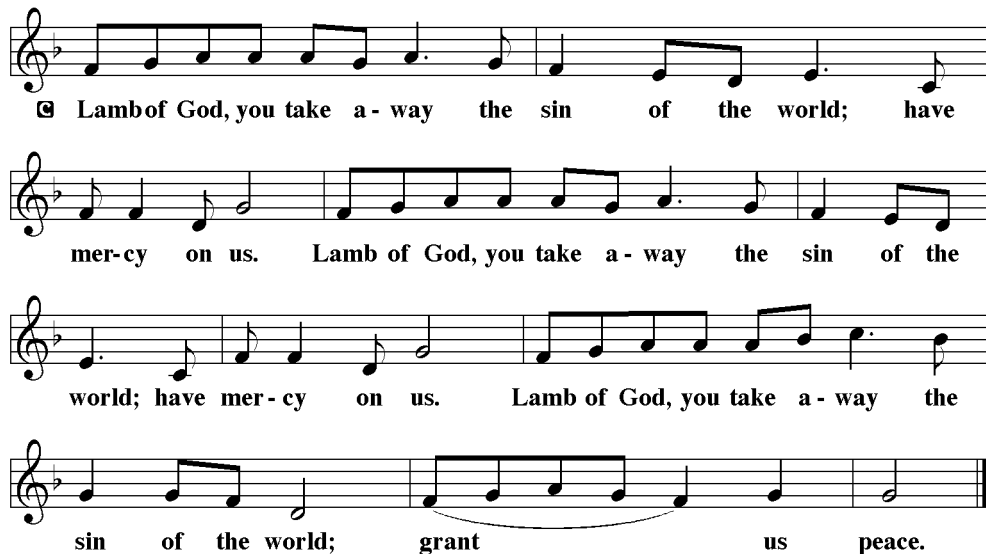
## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

## FRACTION

### 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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please use hand sanitizer before coming to the Altar. Both intinction and common cup are available.

## COMMUNION

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE:



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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, **Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE MONTH – CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

### 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.



*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.

## BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ✝ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN – GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING (WOV 721)

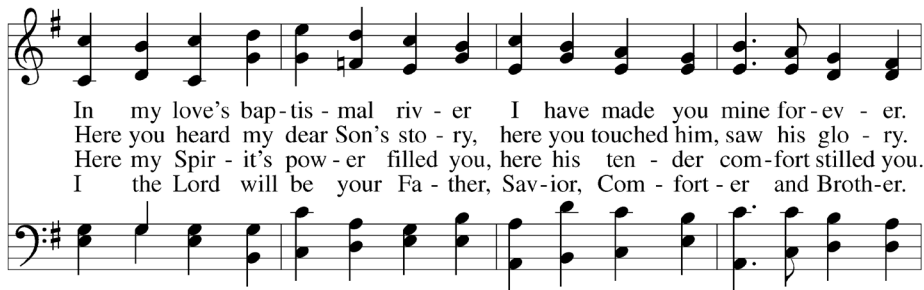
### Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.  
4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.  
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."  
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give ☩ you peace. **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in Hope.

**Thanks be to God.**