

4th Sunday after the Epiphany

He Spoke as
One having
Authority

January 28, 2024



Ascension Lutheran Church

1105 N. Washington Blvd.

Ogden, UT 84404

801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community.

It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**.

Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know a nursery space is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

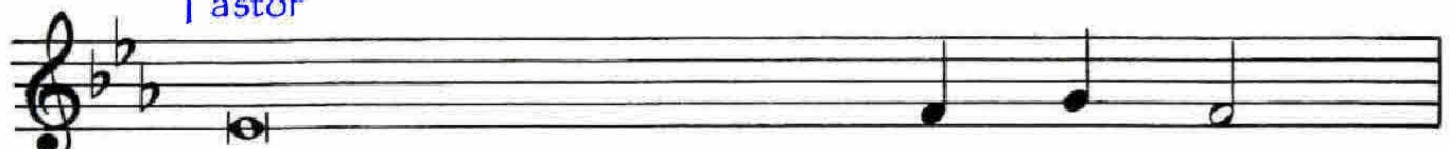
Introduction

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Welcome to Worship

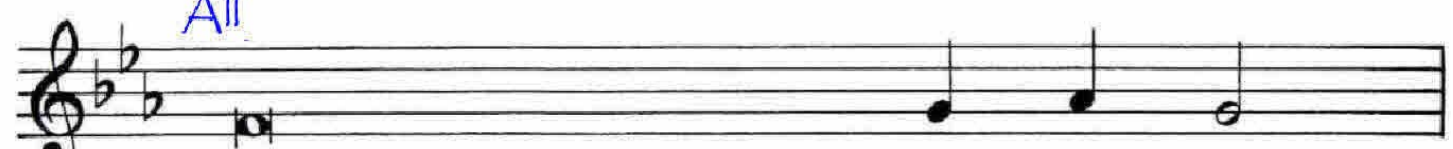
Opening Song

Pastor



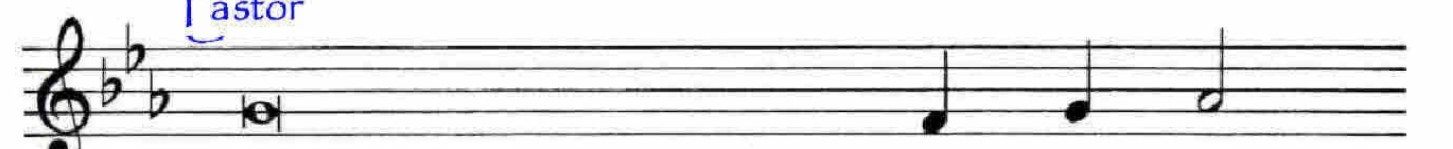
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All



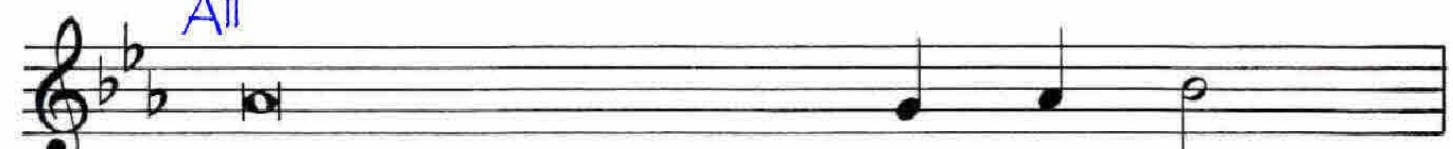
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Pastor



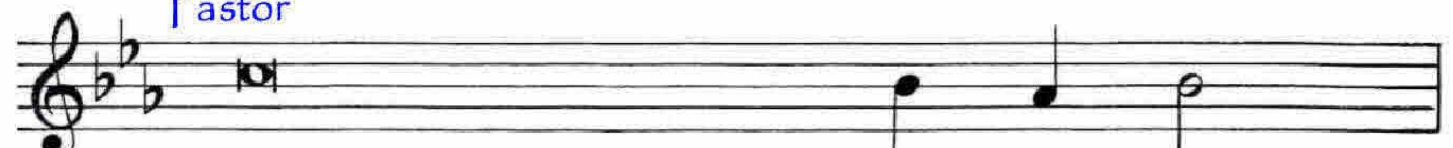
Stay with us now, for it is morning,

All



and the day is just be - gun.

Pastor



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All



and shine within your peo - ple here. —

All:



1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, of the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



morn - ing dawns a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new. _____
free and make us whole. _____
on to end - less day. _____

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

All Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

God, our rock and refuge,

All we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

**We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.**

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✠ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

All Amen.

You may be Seated

Prayer of the Day



All Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

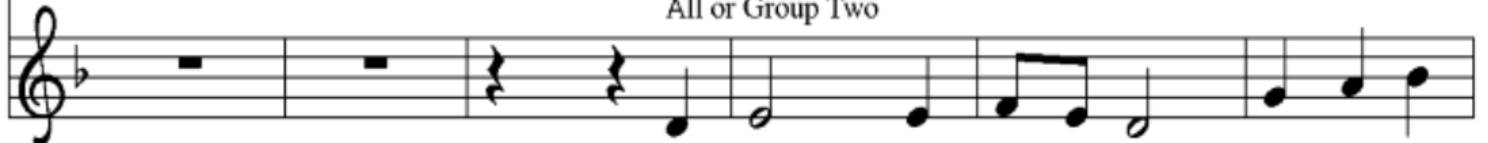


lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.



Women O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my

All or Group Two



Men O God, I call to you, come to me



W voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like



M now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise



W in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an



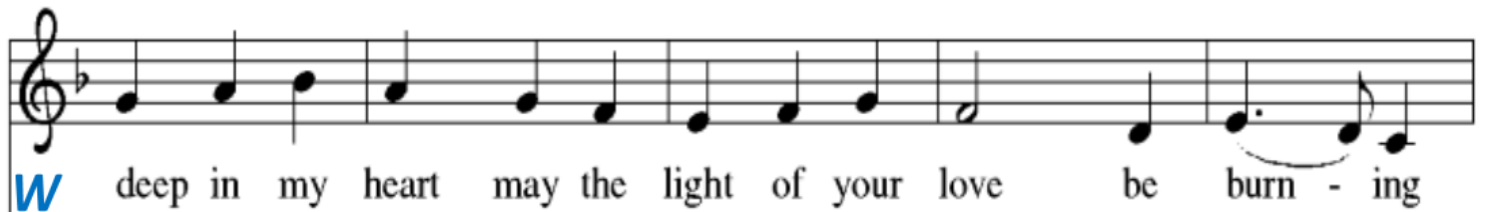
M up like in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my



W of-fer-ing to you. Keep watch with - in me, God;



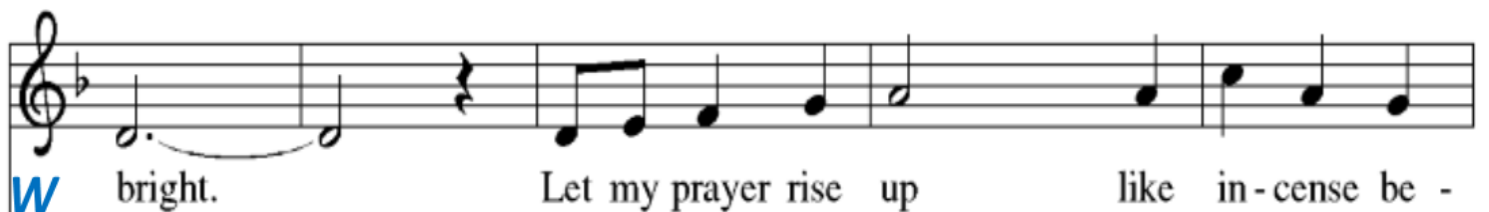
M hands as an of-fer-ing to you. Keep



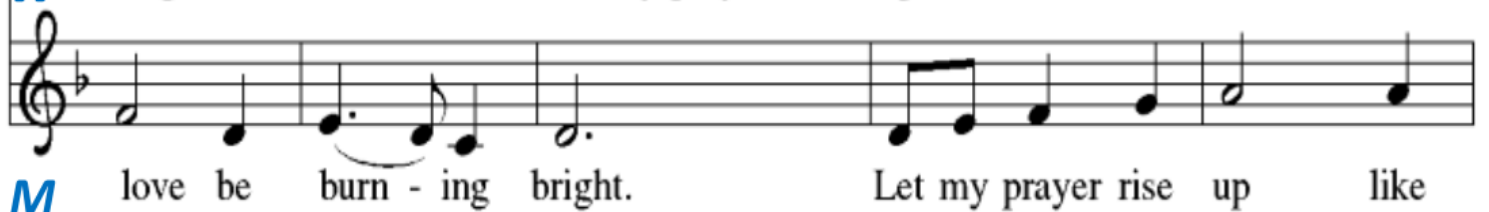
W deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing




M watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your



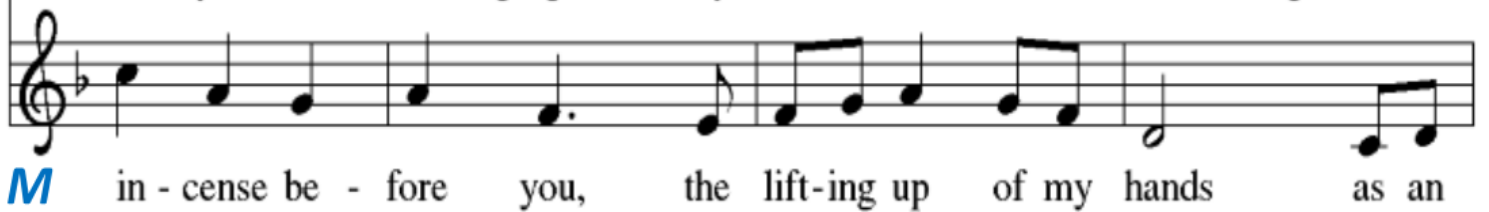
W bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -



M love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up like



W fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



M in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

W you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of

M of-fer-ing to you. All praise to the

W life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.

M God of all— Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

W Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

M Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

W lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

M fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Text: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 141
 Music: Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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A Reading from Deuteronomy, the 3rd chapter

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

L Word of God, Word of Life.

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 8th chapter

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are

all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

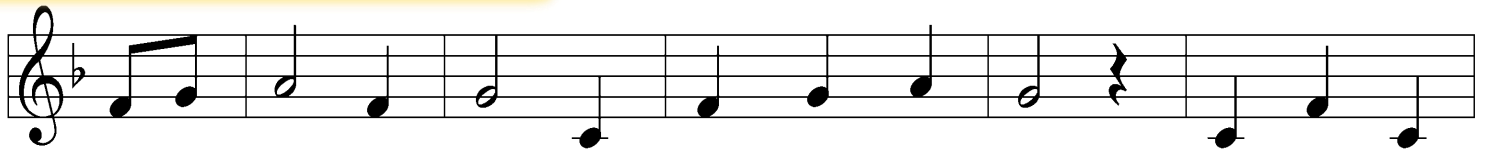
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

L Word of God, Word of Hope.

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

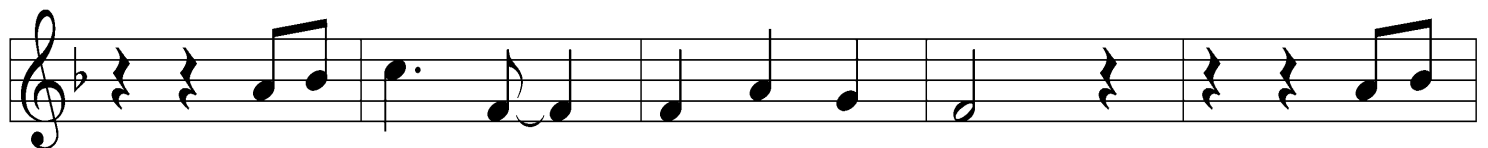
Please stand in body or spirit.



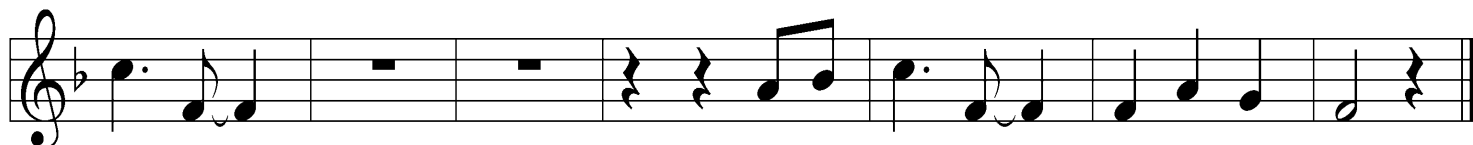
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.”²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!”²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.”²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Mark 1:21-28

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Majesty

Words and Music by
Jack Hayford

Maj - es - ty, wor - ship His maj - es - ty. Un - to
Je - sus be all glo - ry, hon - or, and praise. Maj - es - ty,
king - dom au - thor - i - ty Flow from His
throne un - to His own; His an - them raise. So ex -
-alt, lift up on high the name of Je - sus. Mag - ni -
-fy, come glo - ri - fy Christ Je - sus, the King.
Maj - es - ty, wor - ship His maj - es - ty -
Je - sus who died, now glo - ri -
-fied, King of all kings.

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the 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 the People

You may be Seated

L As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.



O Lord, hear our prayer we of-fer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: God of grace, ***All:* receive our prayer.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by “speaking” that Peace through sign language.

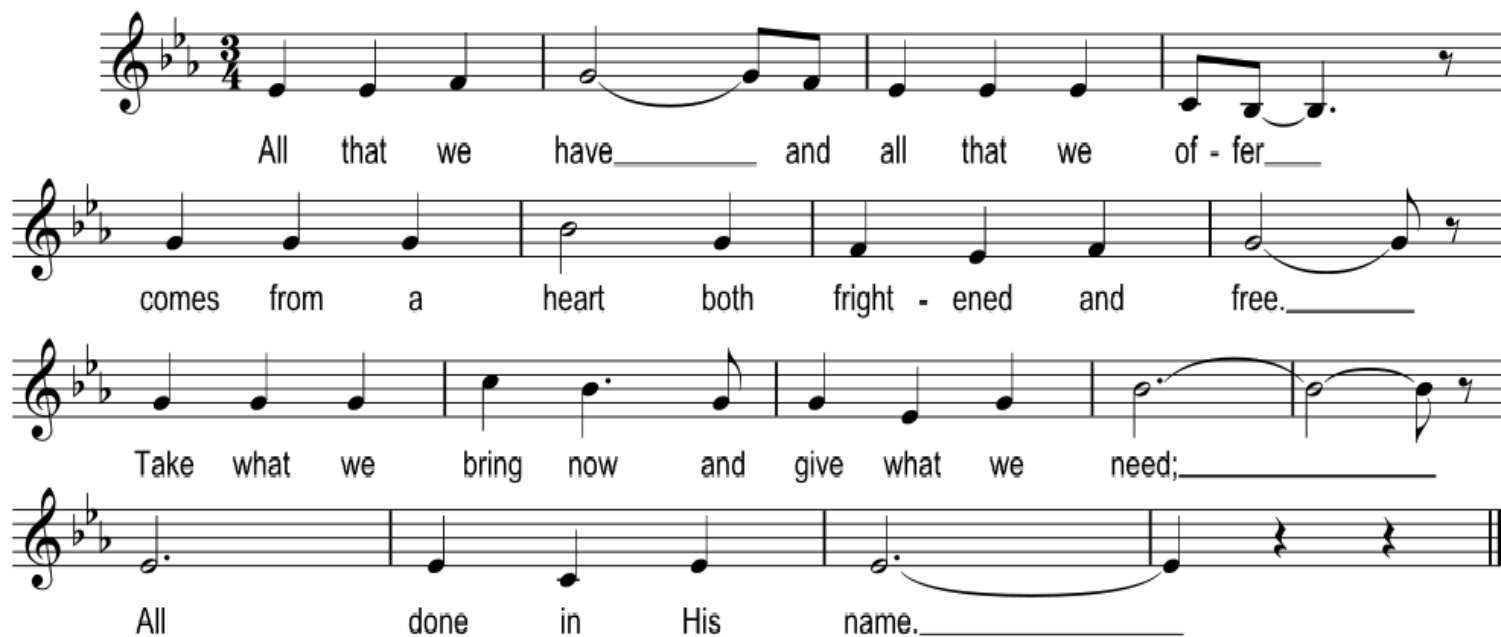
P Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

You may be Seated

While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.



All that we have _____ and all that we of - fer _____
comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. _____
Take what we bring now and give what we need; _____
All done in His name. _____

Offertory Prayer

P Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.

All As we give back to you a portion of your blessings,
may we be a blessing of your love and light in the world.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

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 God thanks and praise.

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.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Let us approach the throne of grace as we 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, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Invitation

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

Communion Songs

Healer of Our Every Ill

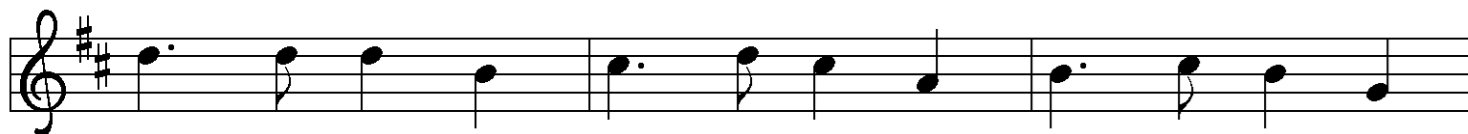
Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Great is the Lord



Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his



pow - er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is



faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is



love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.



Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now



lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the



Lord! Great is the Lord!

Text and music: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith
Text and music © 1982 Meadowgreen Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

All Amen

P Let us pray,
Giver of every gift,

**All Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever. Amen.**

You may be Seated

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

All Amen

Sending

Trading My Sorrows

Words and Music by
Darrell Evans

I'm trad - ing my sor - rows, I'm trad - ing my
I'm trad - ing my sick - ness, I'm trad - ing my
shame, I'm lay - ing them down for the joy of the
pain, I'm lay - ing them down for the joy of the
Lord. Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;
Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord; Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord, a-men.
I am pressed but not crushed, per - se -
-cut-ed, not a - ban - doned, struck down, but not de - stroyed; I am blessed
be - yond the curse, for His prom - ise will en - dure, that His joy's gon - na be my strength.
Though the sor - row may

last for the night, His joy comes with the morn -
 -ing. ing. I'm trad - ing my sor - rows, I'm trad - ing my sick - ness,
 I'm trad - ing my shame, I'm lay - ing them
 I'm trad - ing my pain, I'm lay - ing them
 down for the joy of the Lord.
 down for the joy of the Lord.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

All Thanks be to God.



**Readings for next Sunday,
 February 4th**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

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