



Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025



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 worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

Introduction

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

Welcome to Worship

At the font...

P Water is one of the most ancient symbols of our faith.
It was water that the Israelites came through into freedom.
It was water that Jesus was baptized in.
It was water by which he called the disciples.
It was water that he used to teach his disciples how to be servants to all.

Today we take a Journey of our own Discipleship
through water and the Spirit.

We let go of all things we do not need.

We remember our belovedness.

We recommit to serve others with joy.

WA In the beginning water cradled us in the womb
Holding us in suspension until we burst forth in the waters of birth

P In the desert a small drop of water causes life to bloom
A tiny drop of water can quench our burning thirst for justice

All God's love flows through the water

WA In the roots of our being water provides sustenance
Without water our lives would shrivel and wither

P In the times when we feel sullied and broken
We long to be reawakened by soaking in forgiving, transforming love

All God's love flows through the water

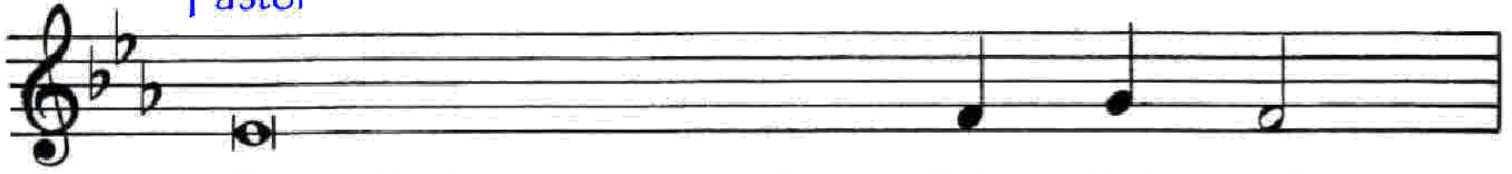
WA All water is holy.
A sign that we have passed through troubles, that we have been
refreshed by a gift of life sustained by a love poured over us.

P In the aftermath of water...
flowing, pouring, falling, dropping, gushing, spilling, surging,
tumbling, showering...
is the rainbow sign of God's continuing love at work within us
and through us.

All God's love flows through the water

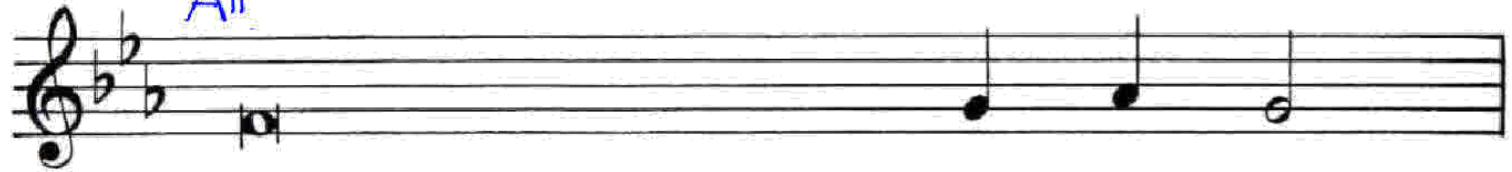
Opening Song

Pastor



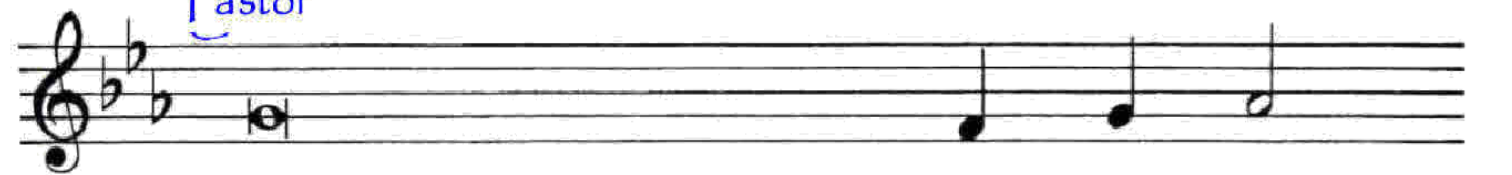
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All



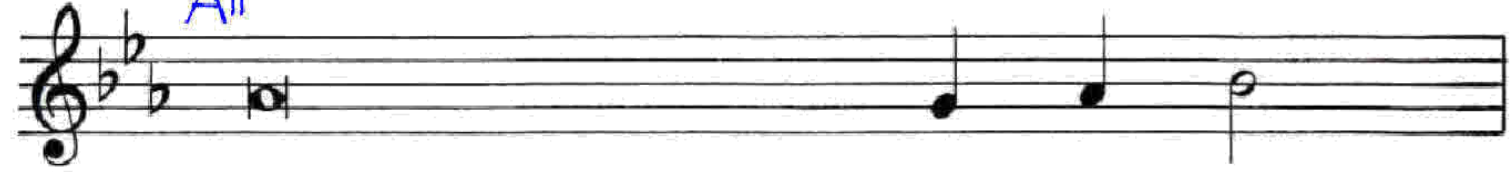
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Pastor



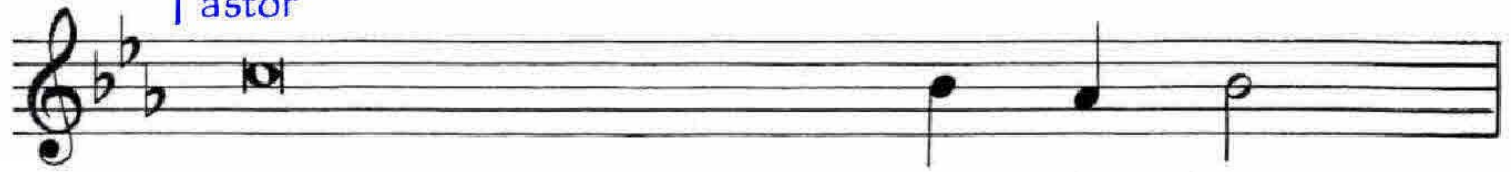
Stay with us now, for it is morning,

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. _____

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life

***All* Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

Merciful God,

***All* 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.**

P 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.

***All* Amen.**

You may be Seated

Prayer for This 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



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

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A Reading from Isaiah, the 43rd chapter

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ 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—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Isaiah 43:1-7

L Word of God, Word of Hope.

All Thanks be to God!

A Responsive Reading of Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

- 4 **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 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.**
- 9 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.**
- 11 O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Psalm 29

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

O - pen the eyes of my heart, Lord,

o - pen the eyes of my heart; I want to see You,

I want to see You.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

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

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ 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."

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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."

Luke 3:15-22

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

[You may be Seated](#)

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

You Are Mine



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
4 "I am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *to verse 2*
Come and rest in me. *to refrain*
all will know my name. *to verse 4*
up, now walk and live! *to refrain*



Refrain
Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

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.**

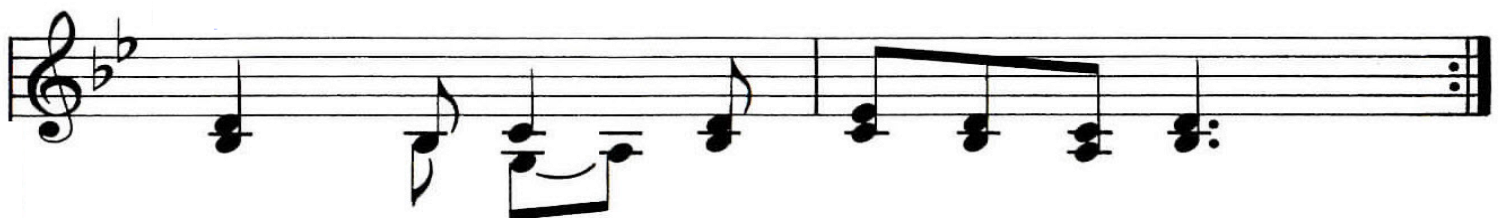
Prayers of the People

You may be Seated

WA With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

All

(Hmmm)



God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.



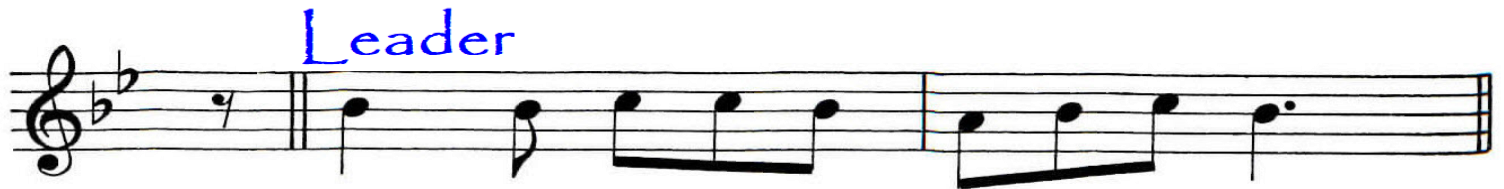
1. In peace, in peace, we pray_ to you:



2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:



3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:
4. For we who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la-bor in ser-vice to oth-ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer-cy:



Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:



Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

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.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me. Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Offertory Prayer

P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

All 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.

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 Gracious God, we thank you that in every age you have made water a sign of your presence.

In the waters of the Jordan, your Son was baptized and anointed with your Spirit for his ministry.

May this same Spirit bless the water we use today, that it may be a fountain of a new creation.

This is the water through which we experience the healing and wholeness, promising us that a time will come when all is good.

All Come, Holy Spirit, come to us again.

Renew in us the knowledge that

you are the victory, you are the grace,

and you are the reason this gathering is holy.

WA Come, Holy Spirit,

renew the hearts of all gathered for praise and prayer,

renew in us the desire for justice and peace,

liberation and life now and every day.

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

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

Communion Songs

You may be Seated

Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.




Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

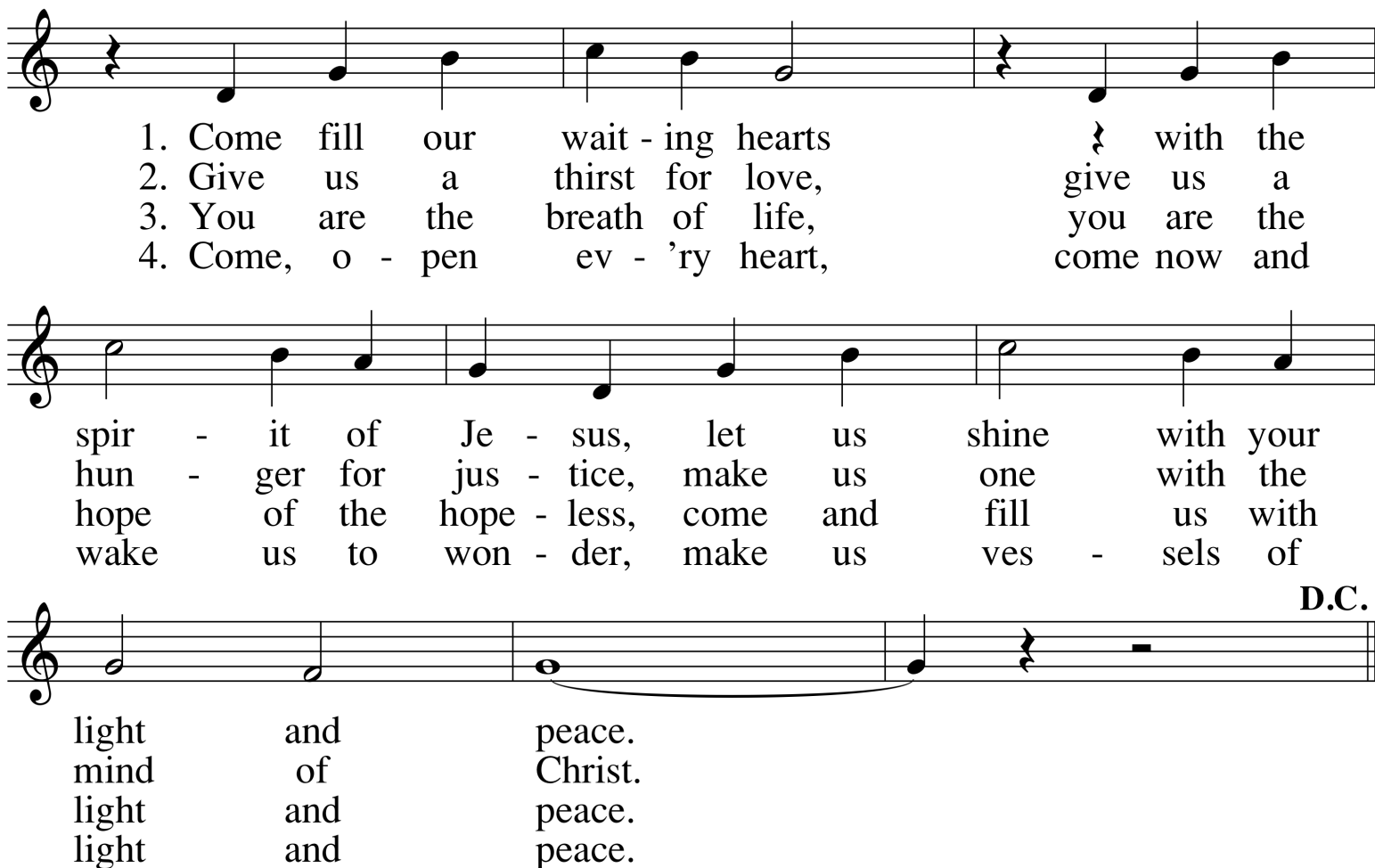
Song over the Waters

Refrain



God, you have moved up-on the wa-ters, you have sung in the
 rush of wind and flame; and in your love, you have called us sons and
 daugh-ters, make us peo-ple of the wa-ter and your name.

Verses



1. Come fill our wait-ing hearts with the
 2. Give us a thirst for love, give us a
 3. You are the breath of life, you are the
 4. Come, o-pen ev-'ry heart, come now and

spir-it of Je-sus, let us shine with your
 hun-ger for jus-tice, make us one with the
 hope of the hope-less, come and fill us with
 wake us to won-der, make us ves-sels of

light and peace.
 mind of Christ.
 light and peace.
 light and peace.

D.C.

Sanctuary

Words and Music by
John W. Thompson
and Randy Scruggs



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and true; With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for You.

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,
Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

**All 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.**

You may be Seated

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

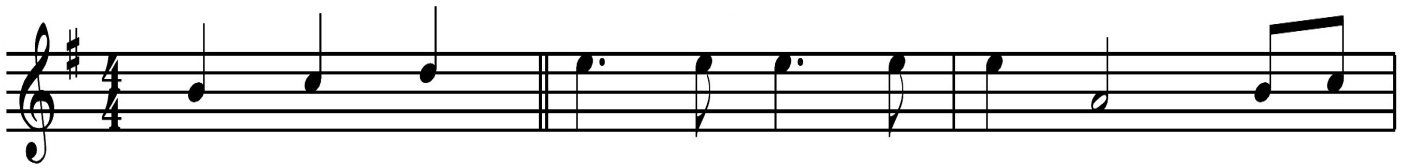
Please stand in body or spirit.

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

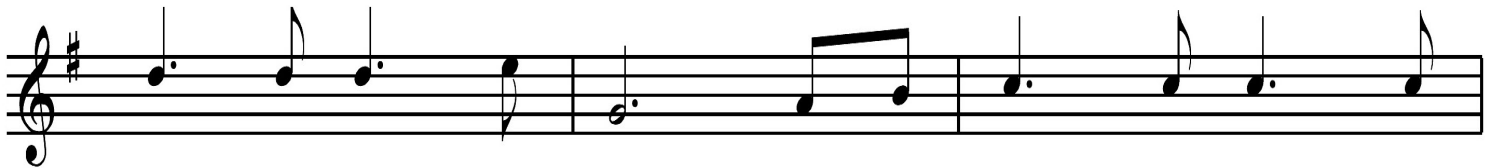
All Amen

Sending

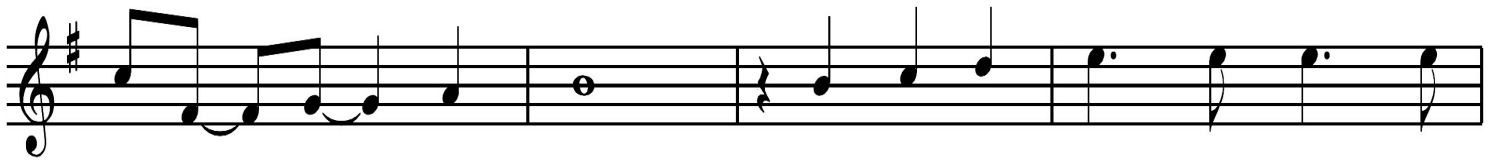
Spirit Song Words and Music by
John Wimber



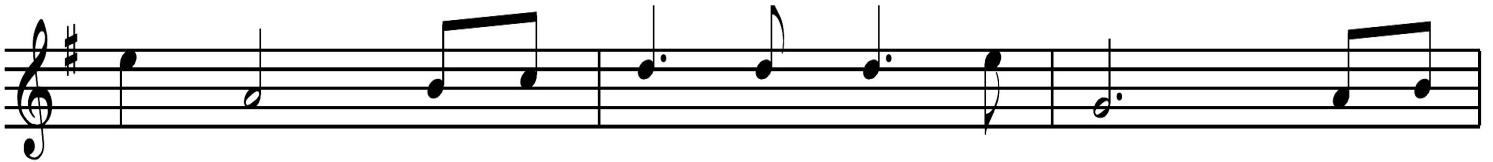
1 Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you with His
2 Oh, come and sing this song with glad - ness as your



Spir - it and His love; Let Him fill your heart and
hearts are filled with joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur -



sat - is - fy your soul. Oh, let Him have those things that
ren - der to His name. Oh, give Him all your tears and



hold you, and His Spir - it, like a dove, will de -
sad - ness, give Him all your years of pain, and you'll



scend up - on your life and make you whole. _____
en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name. _____

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs._____

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs._____

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Live in hope.

All Thanks be to God.

Front Cover:

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Readings for next Sunday,
January 19th

First Reading:	Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm:	Psalm 36:5-10
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Gospel:	John 2:1-11

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