

# *The Patience of God*



*3rd Sunday in Lent*

*March 23, 2025*



Ascension Lutheran Church  
1105 N. Washington Blvd.  
Ogden, UT 84404  
801.782.2810

### Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, especially those 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 the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

## Welcome to Worship

### Opening Song

Beneath the Tree of Life  
by Marty Haugen

#### Refrain

Please stand in body or spirit.

Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of life.

Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of

life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of

heal - ing and re - lease. Come and

gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -

va - tion, come and die to sin, rise

up to life with - in the reign of God. *To Refrain*

**Greeting**

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

**All** And also with you.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**All** Amen.

*P* Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**All** you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
 but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.  
 We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.  
 We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
 you grant to all people.  
 We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.  
 We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
 Transform our lives  
 and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

*P* Beloved in Christ,  
 God's arms are always stretched open wide  
 to welcome the wandering ones home.  
 In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.  
 You have a place in God's house forever.

**All** Amen.

**Kyrie**

**P** = *presider*      **A** = *all*



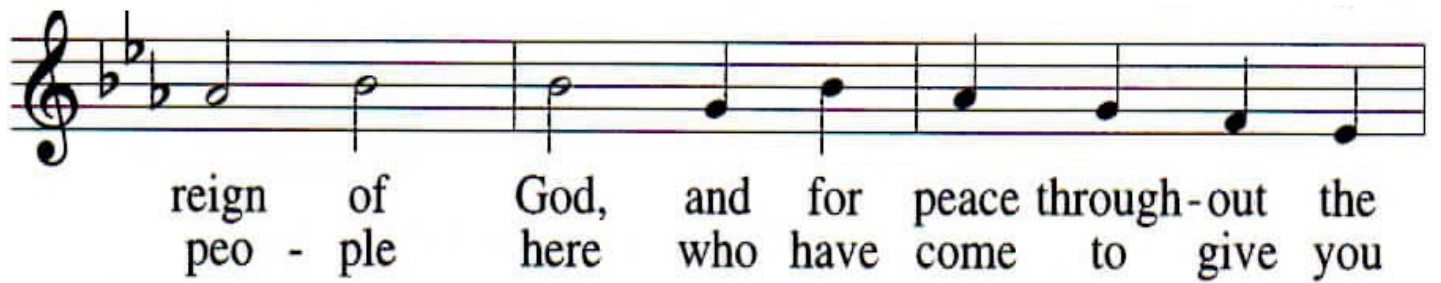
**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



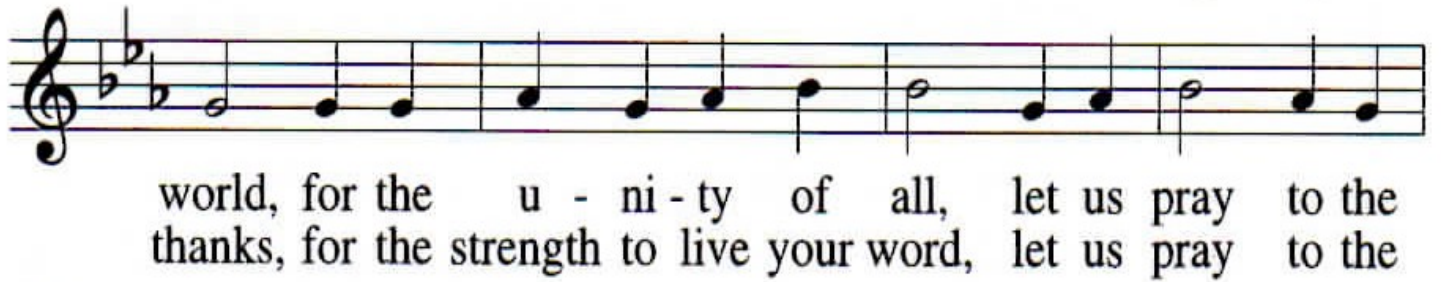
**A** Lord, have mer - cy.      Christ, have mer - cy.



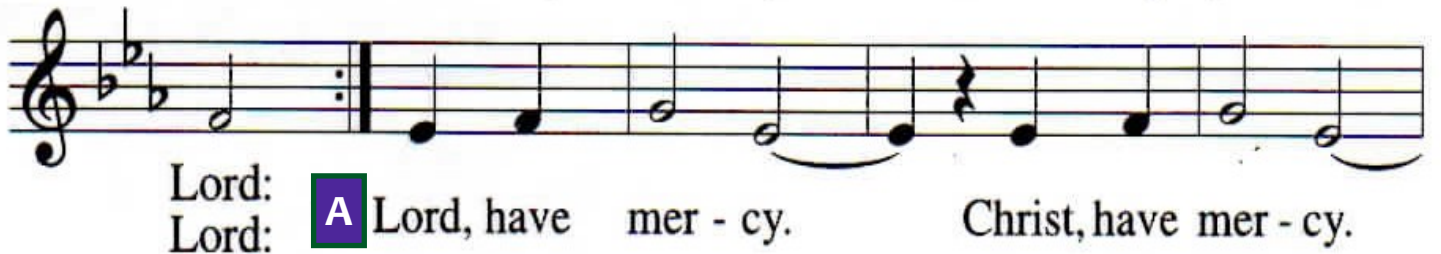
Lord, have mer - cy, mer-cy on us all. **P** 1. For the  
**P** 2. For your



reign of God, and for peace through-out the  
peo - ple here who have come to give you



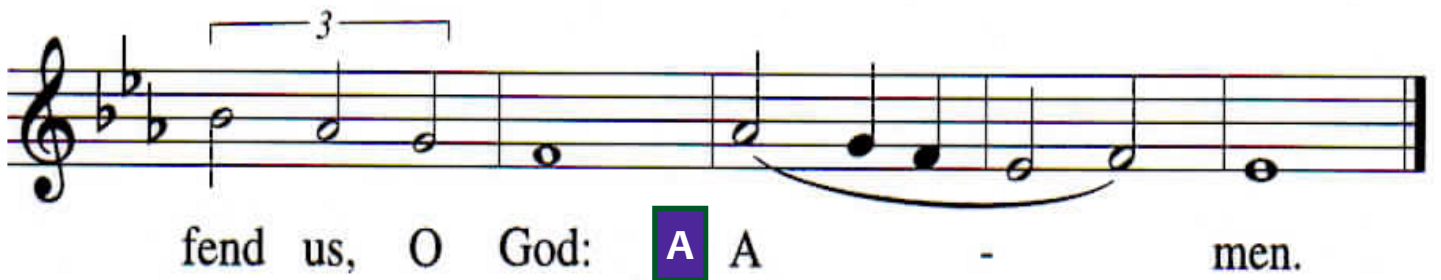
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the



Lord: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.

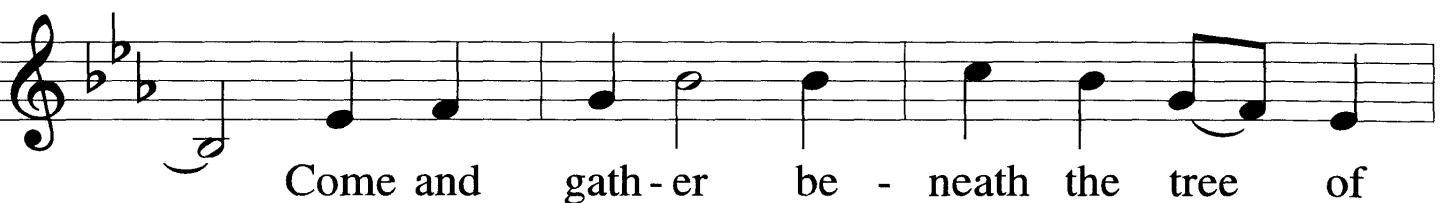


fend us, O God: A A - men.

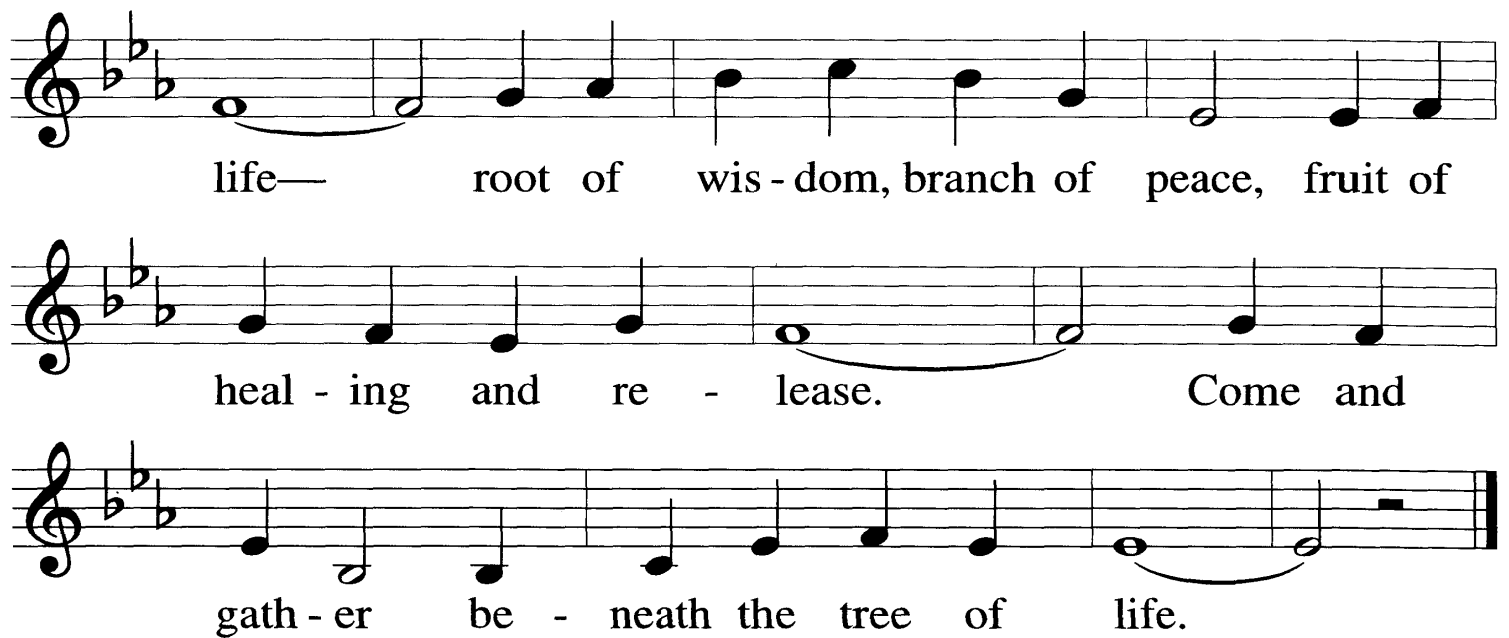
### Refrain



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of



### Prayer for This Day

*P* Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son.

**All Help us to hear your word and obey it,  
and bring your saving love to fruition  
in our lives, through Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*You may be Seated*

### A Reading from Isaiah, the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter

*To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.*

<sup>1</sup> Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters;  
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread  
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> Now you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;  
<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

*Isaiah 55:1-9*

WA The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God!**

## A Reading from 1 Corinthians , the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter

*Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.*

<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>

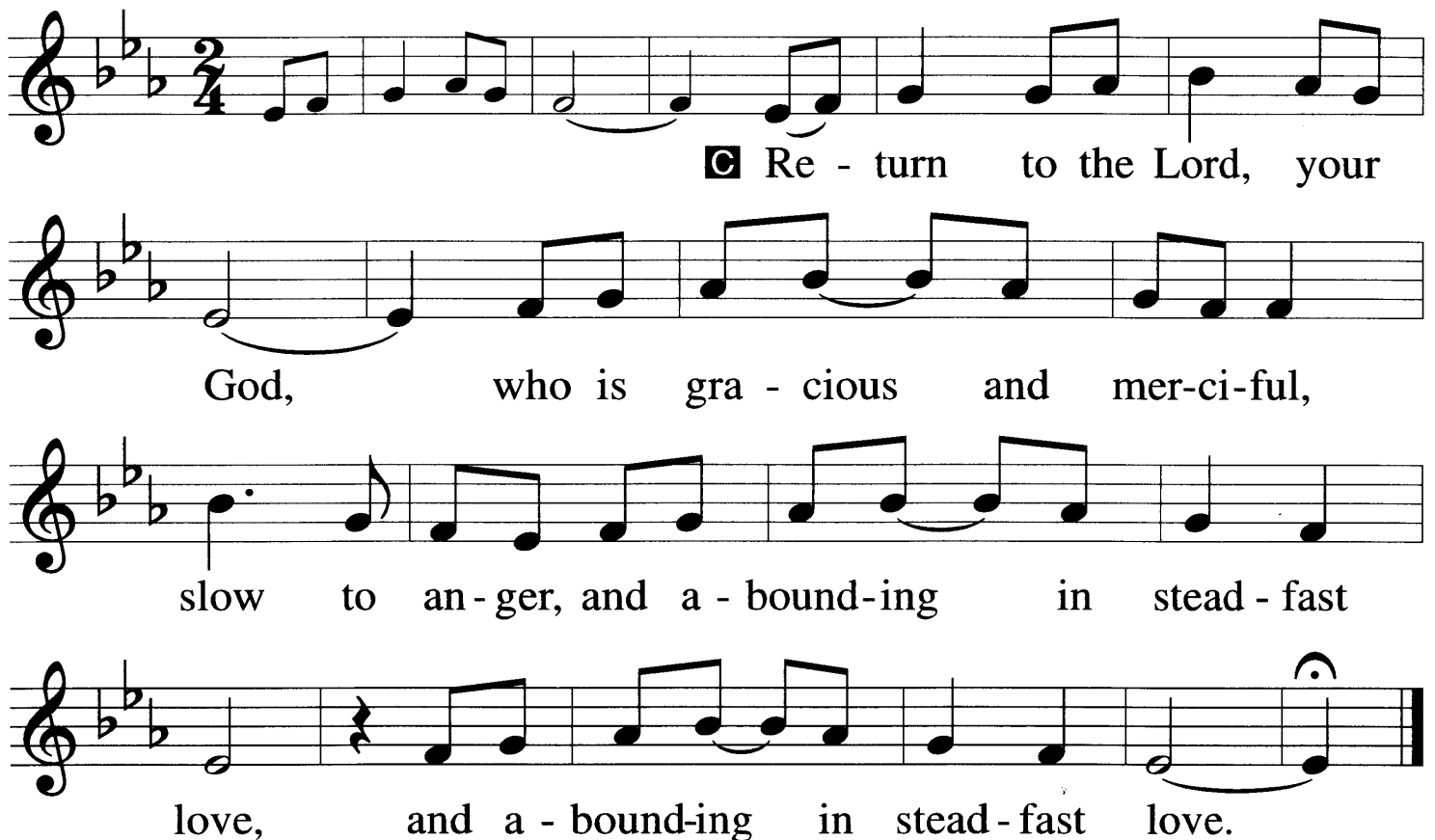
Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit.*



Re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who is gra - cious and mer-ci-ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound-ing in stead - fast  
love, and a - bound-ing in stead - fast love.



## Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.<sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem?<sup>5</sup> No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.<sup>7</sup> So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’<sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.<sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

*Luke 13:1-9*

### [You may be Seated](#)

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

## Children’s Sermon & Noisy Offering

*Each week our congregation is **led by children** to collect pocket change and small bills.*

*Through this offering, we are reminded that together, the smallest of offerings can change lives and make “hope” tangible.*

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

Open Our Eyes Words and Music by  
Bob Cull

O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je -  
-sus, to reach out and touch Him, and  
say that we love Him. O - pen our ears, Lord,  
and help us to lis - ten, o - pen our  
eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

## Affirmation of Faith

*P* This Affirmation of faith was originally used by the Iona Community and was written during a time of great trouble in the world – the time of nuclear proliferation. We know that the world is still troubled. We live in a time of war and rumors of war. It is good for us to use new language – different words – to remember, to see with new eyes God’s activity in this world – and to acknowledge God’s invitation to us.

**We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
In the waiting and uncertainty  
Where fear and courage join hands,  
Conflict and caring link arms,  
And the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God  
Who sits down in our midst  
To share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith  
That takes us beyond the safe place:  
Into action, into vulnerability  
And into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change  
And put ourselves on the line;  
To bear responsibility, take risks,  
Live powerfully and face humiliation;  
To stand with those on the edge;  
To choose life  
And be used by the Spirit  
For God’s new community of hope.  
Amen.**

*You may be Seated*

## Prayers of the People

WA Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.



Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.



Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,



noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

*(each prayer petition ends with)*

*L:* God, in your mercy, ***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* Jesus Christ become Peace with you.

***All*** And also with you.

*You may be Seated*

## Offering

*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.*

We will sing our offertory in canon (in a round).



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.  
2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.  
3. Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.  
Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.  
Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.  
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.  
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.  
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.  
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

## Offertory Prayer

*P* Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.

**All** As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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* And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...



**(All)** On the night You were be - trayed You took the bread;\_\_ Af - ter



giv - ing thanks,\_\_ You broke it and said, "This is My\_\_



bod - y, bro - ken for\_\_ you, and as you



eat\_\_ it, re - mem - ber Me; This is My\_\_



bod - y bro - ken for\_\_ you, and as you



eat\_\_ it, re - mem - ber Me." On the

night You were\_\_ be - trayed\_\_ You held the cup;\_\_ Af - ter

giv - ing thanks,\_\_ You lift - ed it up. "This is My\_\_

blood, poured out for\_\_ you, and as you drink\_\_ it, re - mem - ber

Me; This is My\_\_ blood, poured out for\_\_ you, and as you

drink\_\_ it, re - mem - ber\_\_ Me." So, we

thank You for\_\_ the wine\_\_ and for the bread;\_\_ For we

see the life\_\_ You gave\_\_ and the blood You\_ shed. And we re -

mem - ber Your won - drous\_\_ love, You gave Your

bod - y, You shed Your blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous

love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

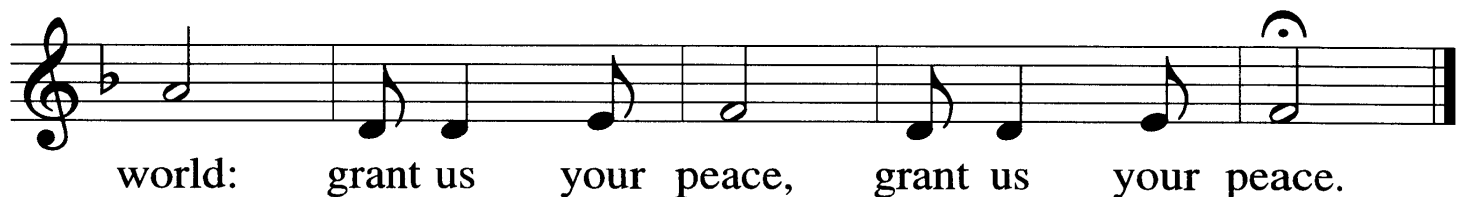
*P* Let us together approach the throne of grace  
as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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* All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## Communion Songs





# All You Who Are Thirsty

## Refrain



All you who are thirst - y, come to the wa - ter;



All you who hun - ger, come, re - ceive grain;



All with - out mon - ey, come with - out pay - ing;



All you who heed me, come for rich fare.

## Verses

*Cantor or choir:*



1. Come now and lis - ten that you may have life; my  
 2. Why spend your mon - ey for what is not bread, your  
 3. Drink of this wa - ter a - bun - dant with life and



cov - e - nant I will re - new. This  
 wag - es for what fails to sat - is - fy? 7  
 eat of the bread I pro - vide. 7



cov - e - nant shall be e - ter - nal  
 Heed my com - mand - ments and you shall eat well;  
 I am the bread, and the wa - ter am I; put



as I prom - ised to Da - vid.  
 you shall de - light in rich fare.  
 thirst - ing and hun - ger a - side.

**D.C.**

# Cares Chorus

Words and Music by  
Kelly Willard

I cast all my cares up - on You. I  
lay all of my bur - dens down at Your feet. And  
an - y - time that I don't know what to do, I will  
cast all my cares up - on 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,  
Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

**All** Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

You may be Seated

## Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

# Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

*P* God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**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. Care for others as God cares for you.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Front Cover:

Photo by [Ali Kazal](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Readings for next Sunday,  
 March 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Lent 4

- First Reading:** Joshua 5:9-12
- Psalm:** Psalm 32
- Second Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
- Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Music licenses covered by these subscriptions