

Bach 45th Year

Grace Lutheran Church ■ River Forest, Illinois
Sunday afternoons ■ Prelude at 3:45 p.m.

Cantata Vespers 2015–2016



January 6, 2016

Herr, wenn die stolzen Feinde schnauben (BWV 248.6)

Lord, when our proud enemies snort with rage

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Welcome In the name of Christ welcome to all who gather to receive God's holy Word and the sacrament of the altar. We are glad you have joined us for worship. As a community of faith, worship and service are central to our life. Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Grace as your church home, to grow in faith and be nurtured with the living Word.

Children's Resources Children's resources, including activity bags, worship bulletins and booster seats, are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Assistance in Worship For those who find it difficult to stand during any part of the service, please remain seated and contact an usher if you would like Holy Communion to be brought to you.

Sound enhancement units and large print bulletins are available in the back of the church and from the ushers.

Cell Phones and Pagers Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Holy Communion In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ is host.

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE: Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie

Maurice Durufle

We stand.

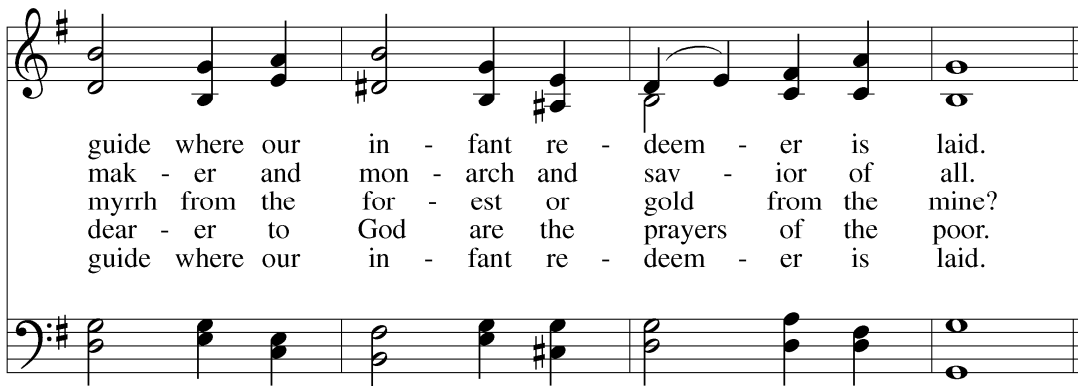
ENTRANCE HYMN: Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

(green) **LBW #84**

1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
 3 Shall we not yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
 fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'rings di - vine,
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.

Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,
 Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



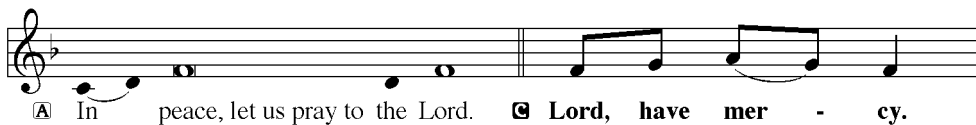
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

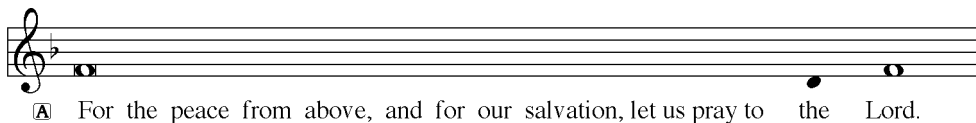
APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

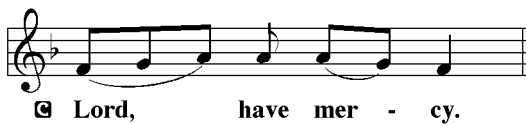
KYRIE



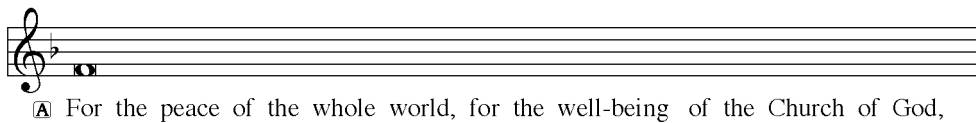
☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☑ **Lord, have mer - cy.**



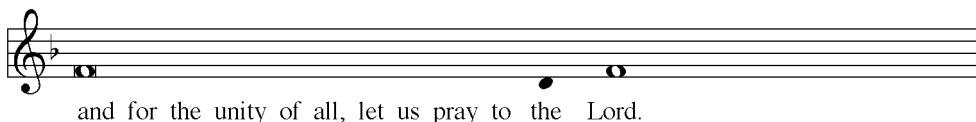
☐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



☑ **Lord, have mer - cy.**



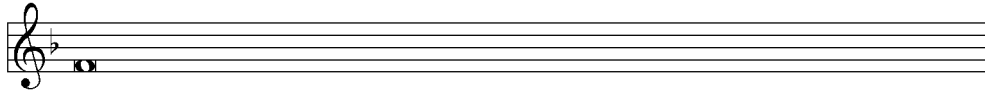
☐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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.

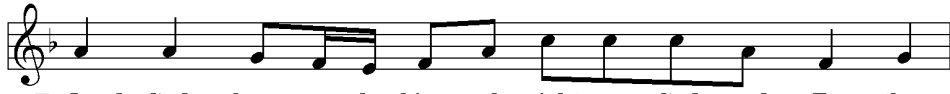


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



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



C 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

P Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

We sit.

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1–7, 10–14

- L** Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,*
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
- C** **that he may rule your | people righteously*
and the | poor with justice;**
- L** that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,*
and the little | hills bring righteousness.
- C** **He shall defend the needy a- | mong the people;*
he shall rescue the poor and crush | the oppressor.**
- L** He shall live as long as the sun and | moon endure,*
from one generation | to another.
- C** **He shall come down like rain upon | the mown field,*
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
- L** In his time shall the | righteous flourish;*
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
- C** **The kings of Tarshish and of the isles | shall pay tribute,*
and the kings of Arabia and Saba | offer gifts.**
- L** All kings shall bow | down before him,*
and all the nations | do him service.
- C** **For he shall deliver the poor who cries out | in distress,*
and the oppressed who | has no helper.**
- L** He shall have pity on the low- | ly and poor;*
he shall preserve the lives | of the needy.
- C** **He shall redeem their lives from oppres- | sion and violence,*
and dear shall their blood be | in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1–12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- L** The Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL VERSE: Matthew 2:2b

Robert Wetzler

Alleluia. We have seen his star in the East,
and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

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

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;

¹¹and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother,
and they fell down and worshipped him.

Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

We sit.

CANTATA: Herr, wenn die stolzen Feinde schnauben, BWV 248.6
(Lord, when our proud enemies snort with rage)

Johann Sebastian Bach

A translation of the cantata text is printed on page 34 of the Christmas Oratorio booklet.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Mark P. Bangert

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

(green) **LBW #76**

The choir sings stanza 5 in a setting by Michael D. Costello.



C 1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
W 2 Come, heav'n - ly Bride - groom, light di - vine, and deep with - in
C 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls
M 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us, when



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



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



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



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich in
Now, though dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and dis -
Let your mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! for you
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life for -

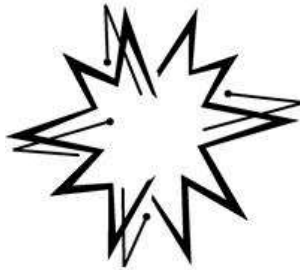


bles - sing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- ☐ 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is he, the King of glory!
- ☐ 6 What joy to know, when life is past,
the Lord we love is first and last,
the end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
transport us to that happy place
beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
for the day of your returning.

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

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress



NICENE CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

A Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

PEACE OF CHRIST

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We sit.

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Hugo Distler

We stand as the gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Reges Tharsis (Psalm 72:10–11) Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Reges Tharsis et insulae munera offerent.

The kings of Tharsis and the isle offer their gifts.

Reges Arabum et Saba dona

The kings of Arabia and Sheba

adducent et adorabunt eum omnes reges terrae.

bring gifts and all the kings of the earth worship him.

Omnes gentes servient ei.

All peoples bow before him.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

G we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C 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.

¶ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

¶ Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

- [P] To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



- [P] Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

- [C] **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.**

- [P] The gifts of God for the people of God.

- [C] **Thanks be to God.**

- [P] Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

AGNUS DEI



[C] 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.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

We receive communion at the head of the center aisle, receiving the consecrated host and then drinking directly from the chalice or dipping the host into the wine (intinction).

Those with a gluten allergy may ask the pastor for a gluten-free host.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

ANTHEM: To Jesus Who Is King

Richard Hillert

To Jesus who is king, Wise Men of old
Brought gifts of frankincense and myrrh, and gold.

The frankincense I bring this Christmastide,
While candles burn and festal music rings,
Is worship, adoration, love and praise
That swells within my heart and soars and sings.

The gold I bring to him is golden life
Entwined with song and laughter shining bright.
It is brave hope that burns like golden fire,
And wondrous joy, a shaft of flaming light.

The myrrh I bring—my tears, my sighs, my fears—
May be to him at last the better part.
And so all quietly I kneel this day
And give to him my trembling, restive heart.

Melva Rorem, 1913–1993



HYMN: The First Noel

(green) LBW #56

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

C Amen.

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart,
 and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ.
 Now send us forth to be your people in the world,
 and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore;
 through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

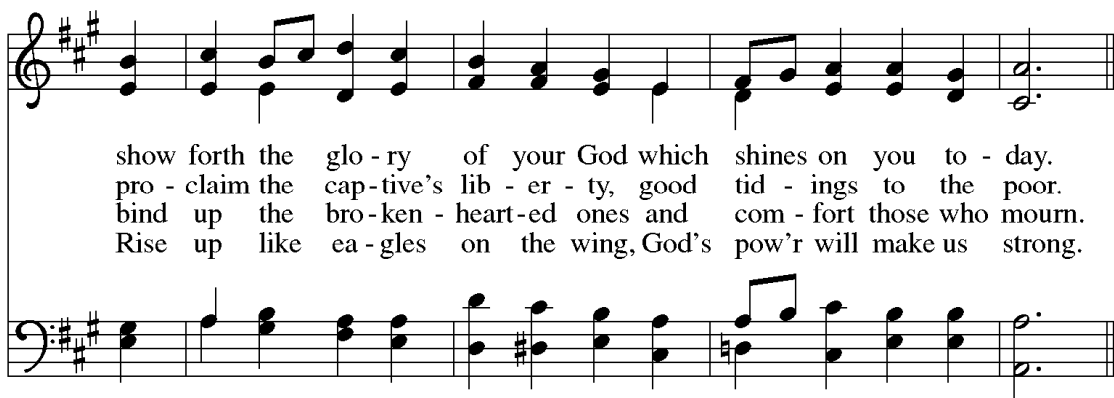
C Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Arise, Your Light Has Come!

(blue) WOV #652



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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DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Walter Pelz

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LEADING WORSHIP

The Rev. David R. Lyle, presiding minister

The Rev. Dr. Mark P. Bangert, preaching minister

The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor

Susie Calhoun, deacon

Ellie Anderson, assisting minister

Logan Kruck and Ron Serpico, lectors

Jo-Ellyn Dorsey, altar guild

Senior Choir/Bach Cantata Vespers Chorus and Orchestra

Steven Wentz, organist

Jillian Krickl, soprano

Susan Nelson, soprano

Sarah Ponder, mezzo-soprano

Hoss Brock, tenor

Dane Thomas, tenor

Douglas Anderson, baritone

Keven Keys, baritone



GRACE
LU⁺HERAN
CHURCH
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