

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, Missouri 65053**  
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PH: 573-782-4458 (church office) [www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org](http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org)  
Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

**Ash Wednesday**

**March 5, 2025**

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**NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.  
Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.**

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Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

**Opening Litany**

P: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
P: He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
P: For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
P: As far as the east is from the west,  
P: As a father cares his children,  
P: For He Himself knows whereof we are made;

**C: Slow to anger and of great kindness**  
**C: Nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**  
**C: So is His mercy great upon those who fear Him.**  
**C: So far has He removed our sins from us.**  
**C: So does the Lord care for those who fear Him.**  
**C: He remembers that we are but dust.**

**\*Gathering Song:**

**Our Father, We Have Wandered**

**606**



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.  
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.  
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

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## Imposition of Ashes

P: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Those who desire to receive ashes come forward.**

### Exhortation

P: In ancient times, people might display their sorrow over sin by scattering dust and ashes on their heads, a reminder that in Eden God decreed death as the penalty for sin: “You are dust, and to dust you shall return”. Yet God also promised that a Savior would come to destroy the power of the tempting serpent who had brought sin and death into God’s creation. In his suffering, the inspired prophet Job spoke of his trust in the Lord’s promise: “I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth”. Confident in his Redeemer’s love, Job confessed his sins, “I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”

### Confession & Forgiveness:

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

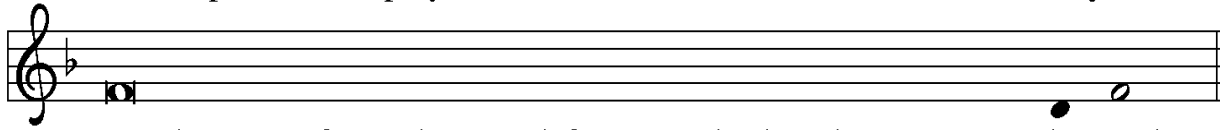
P: The Almighty and merciful God, who breathed into dust the breath of life: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ. The Almighty and merciful God, who breathed into dust the breath of life, grant unto you, forgiveness and remission of all your sins, and give to you grace and comfort of His Holy Spirit. In the name of your Son, Jesus the Christ.

**C: Amen.**

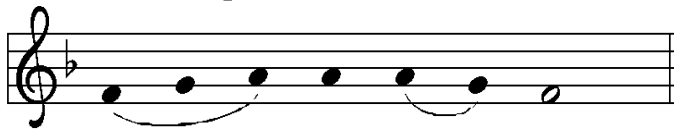
**Kyrie:**



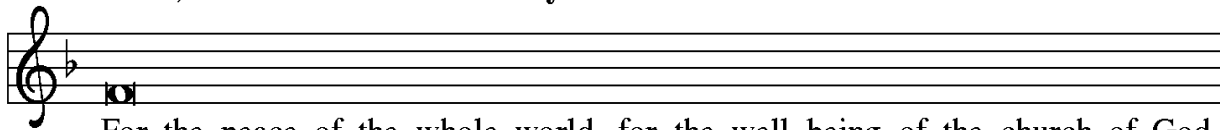
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



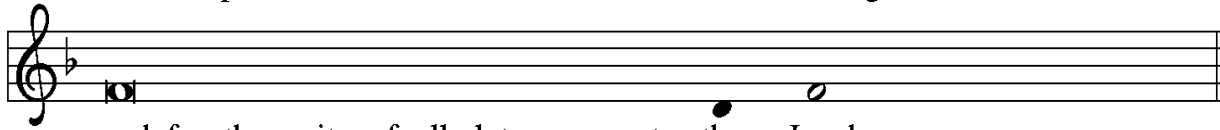
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



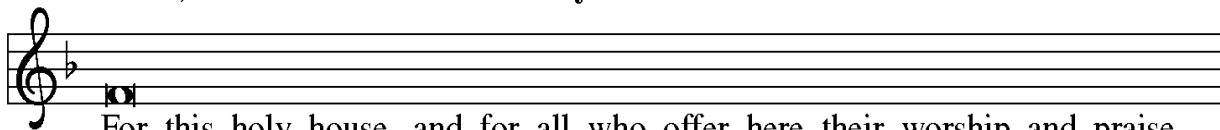
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



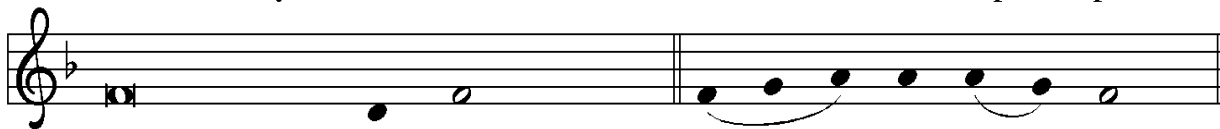
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



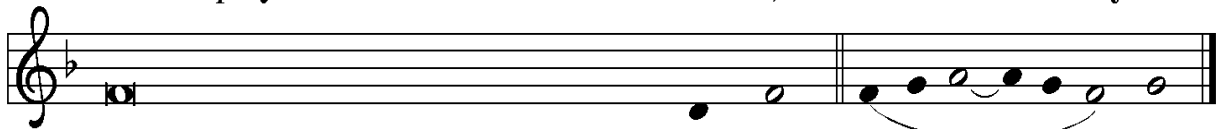
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



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



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

# Hymn of Praise: Glory to God



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



All

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:** Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

## WORD

**The 1st lesson is a reading Isaiah, the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter.**

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

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

**Psalm 51** (Read Responsively)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Let me teach your ways to offenders and sinners shall be restored to you.

**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a **troubled and** broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

**The 2nd lesson is a reading from 2 Corinthians, the 5th and 6th chapter.**

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation:**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he 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.

**\*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon:** “The Christian Way”

Pastor David Viles

Hymn of the Day:

Be Thou My Vision

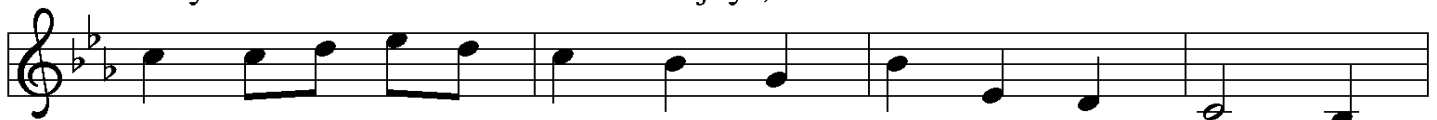
793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

\* **Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

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.

\* **The Prayers of Intercession:** The congregation's response to "God, in your mercy," is "receive our prayer."



## MEAL

**Offering:** We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts.

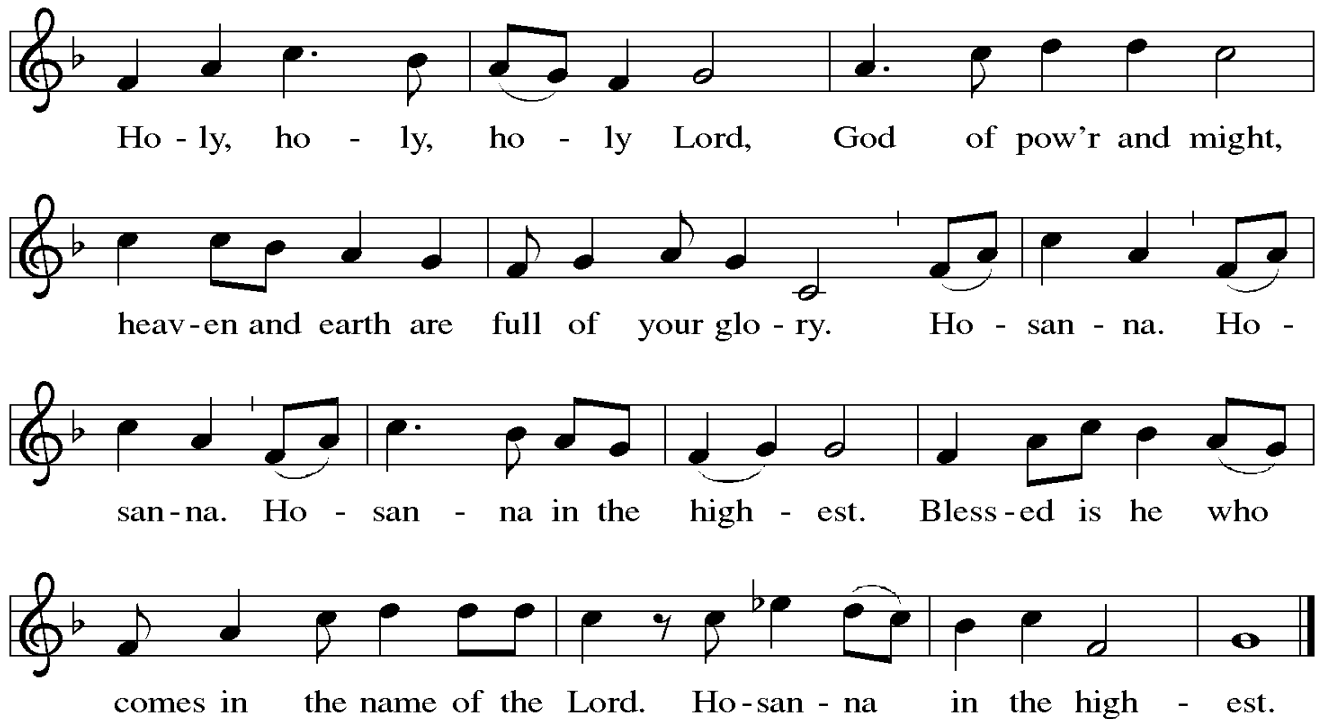
**\*(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Offertory Prayer:** Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy**



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.

**\* Words of Institution – Eucharist Prayer**

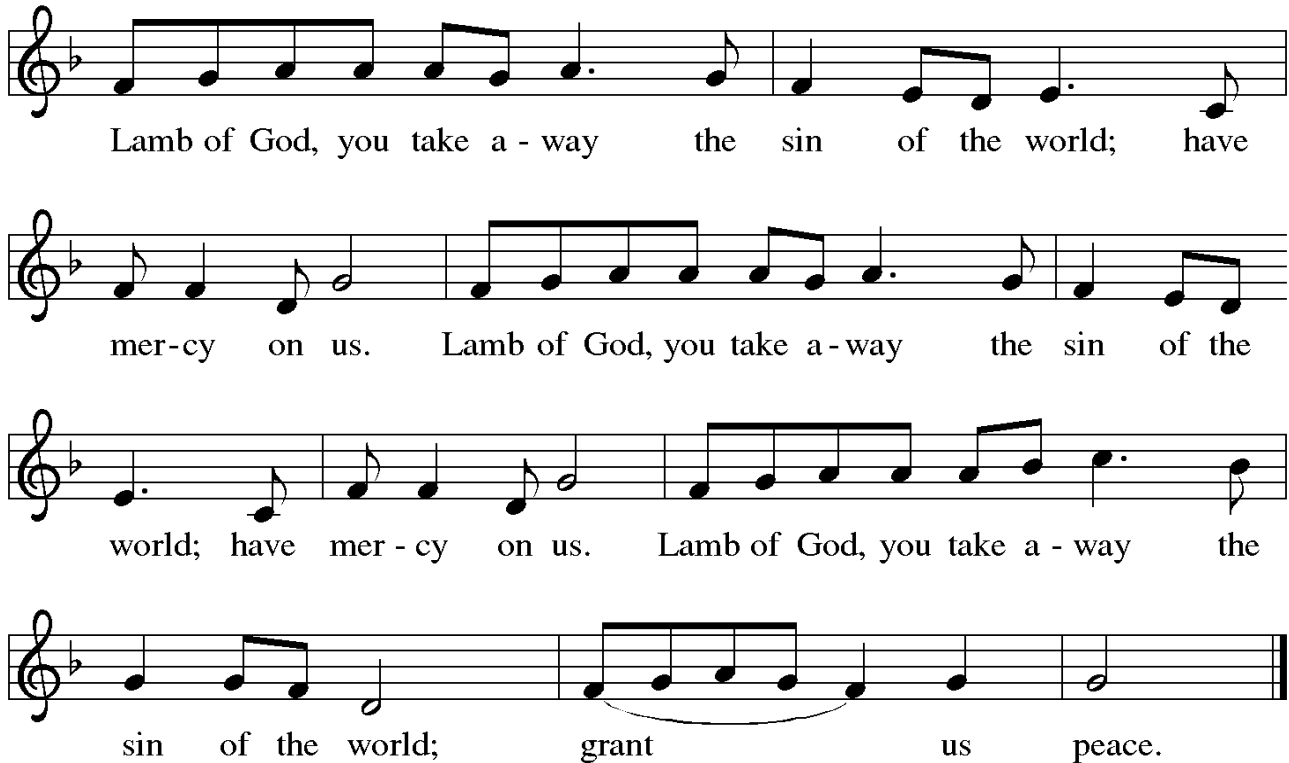
**\*The Lord's Prayer:**

**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.**

## 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.

### Distribution of the Elements

\*Blessing after the Meal

Pastor David Viles

**\*(544 verse 1) Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing; glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this Eucharist declaring yours the final victory.**

### \*Prayer after Communion:

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **C: Amen.**

## SENDING

\***Blessing:** (Please Stand)

Pastor David

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

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:**

## Lord Jesus, Think on Me

**599**



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.  
Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

**P:** Go in peace. Share your bread.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### Postlude

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Oliver Stoermer
Audio / Video Technician	Dan Tschirgi
Reader	Audrey Bunch
Communion Assistant	Donald Weber
Council	Gus Fischer
Greeters	Audrey Bunch & Jerry Koestner
Altar Flowers	Rosemary Heidbreder

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Lenten Season:** This year the Lenten season begins today with our Mid-Week Ash Wednesday service. This will be followed by 5 Wednesday services at 6:00 p.m. Pastor David has a program of weekly readers and we will sing the Holden Evening Prayer. The Ash Wednesday envelope will go to support the Oaks Indian Mission, and all other mid-week services will go to the ELCA Hunger Appeal.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

**WELCA Lent Ingathering** – will be collecting bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotions and body deodorants. Thanks so much. Donations are for the Samaritan Center.

### **Schedule for Online Services:**

Services are at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings on FaceBook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

All services can be viewed at any time on our St. Paul's website: <http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org> just scroll down to the middle section and click on the service of your choice under "In Case You Missed It." Below that is another section for current and past bulletins.

Pastor David Viles