

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, Missouri 65053
Pastor David Viles: cell 479-670-2000 Email: dlviles@gmail.com
PH: 573-782-4458 (church office) www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org
Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:**

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

445



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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Remembering that Jesus the Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life. We continue with confession and forgiveness.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

C: 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.

C: Amen.

*** SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

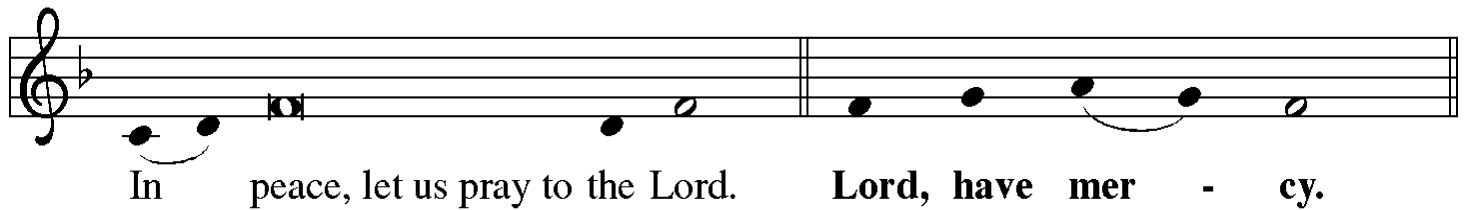
C: And also with you.

GREETING (Please be seated)

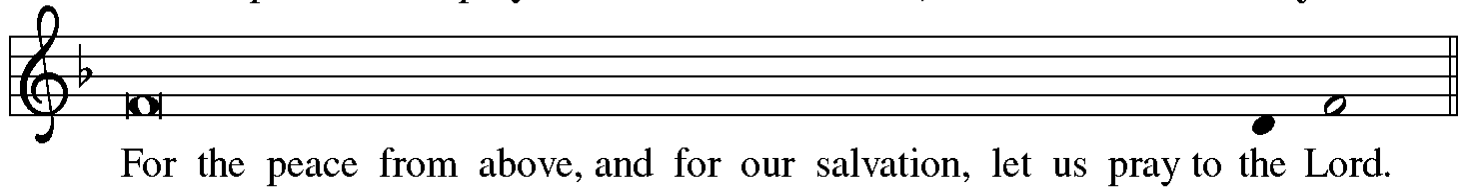
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

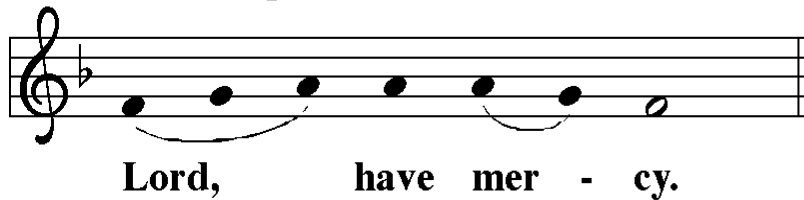
Kyrie:



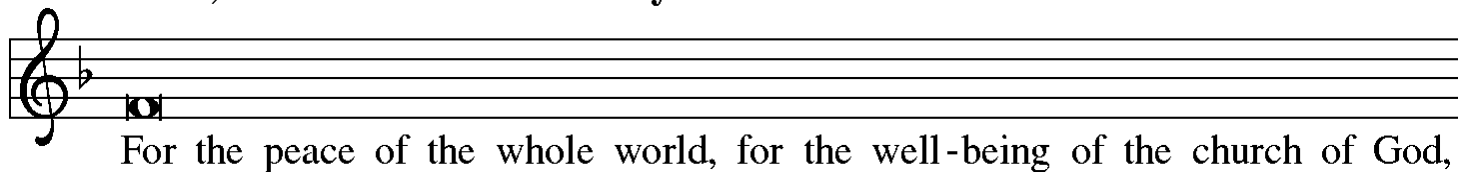
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



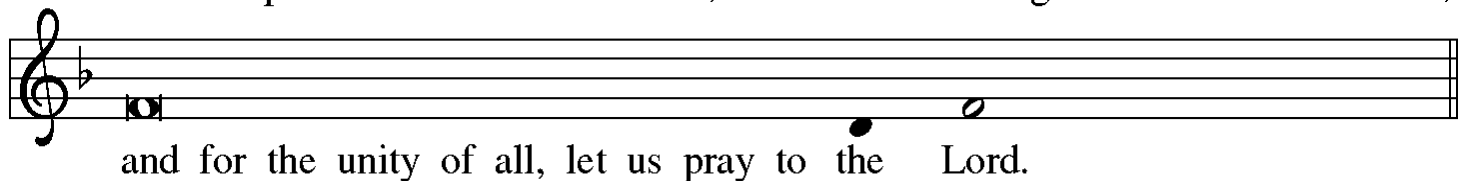
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



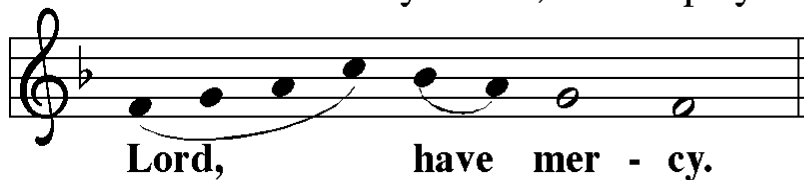
Lord, have mer - cy.



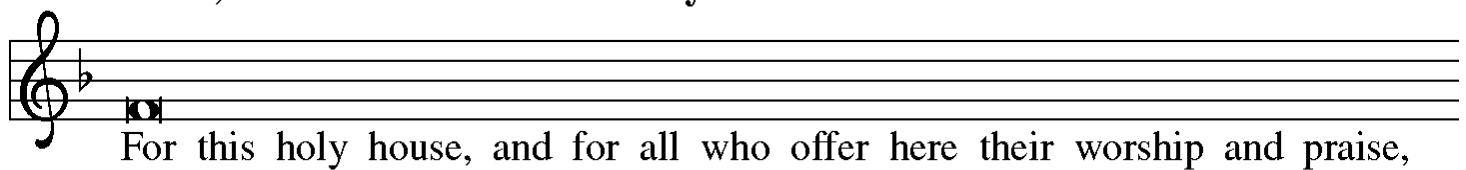
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



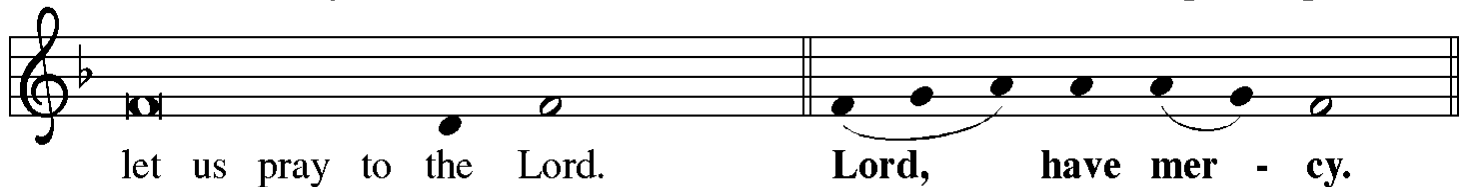
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.



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



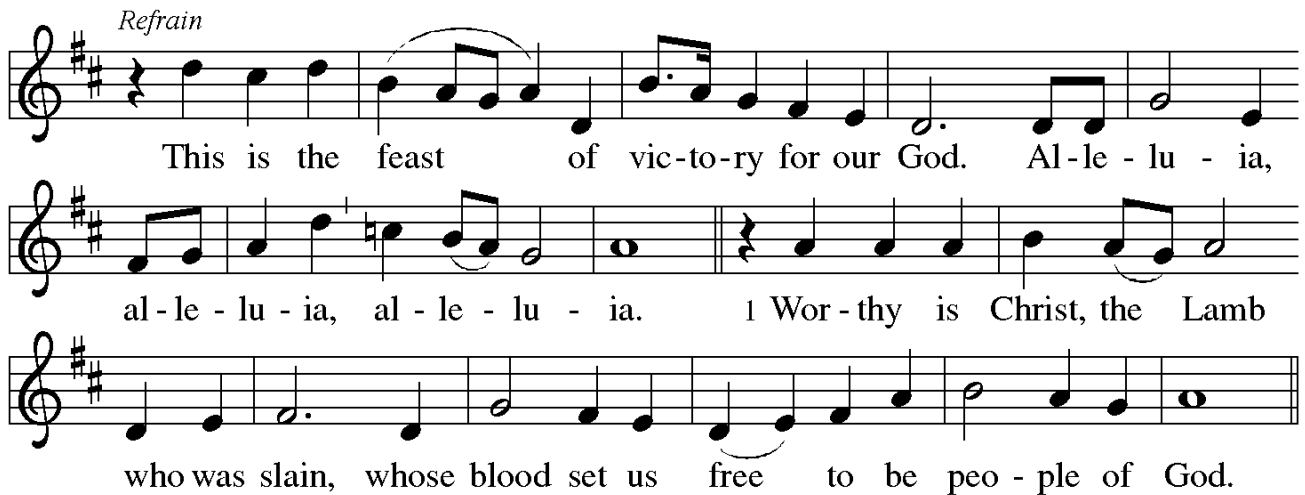
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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

This is the Feast:

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day:

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

C: Amen.

Choir: Psalm 63 “So I Will Praise You”

Children’s Sermon

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Isaiah, the 55th chapter.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. 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. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, 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. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; 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. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

Psalm 63. (Read Responsively)

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

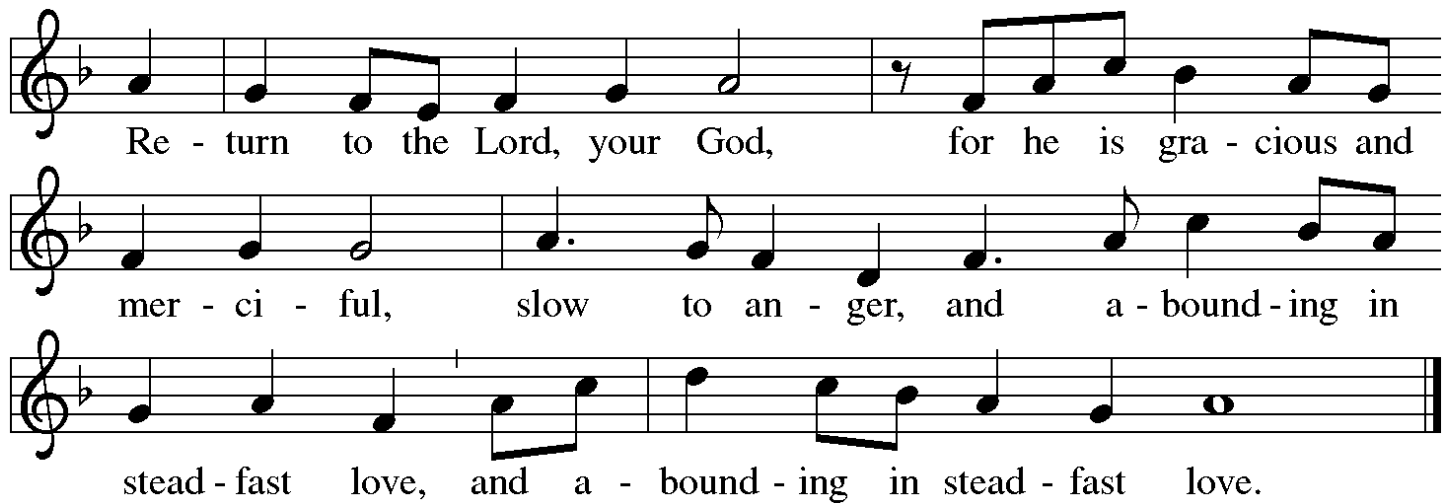
My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

The 2nd lesson is a reading from I Corinthians, the 10th chapter.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. 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." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 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. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. 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.

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 Luke, the 13th chapter**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 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 others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” 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. So he said to the gardener, ‘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?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

Sermon: "A Call to Repentance and Grace"

Pastor David Viles

Hymn of the Day:

Jesus, Still Lead On

624

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,
way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,
guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

*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

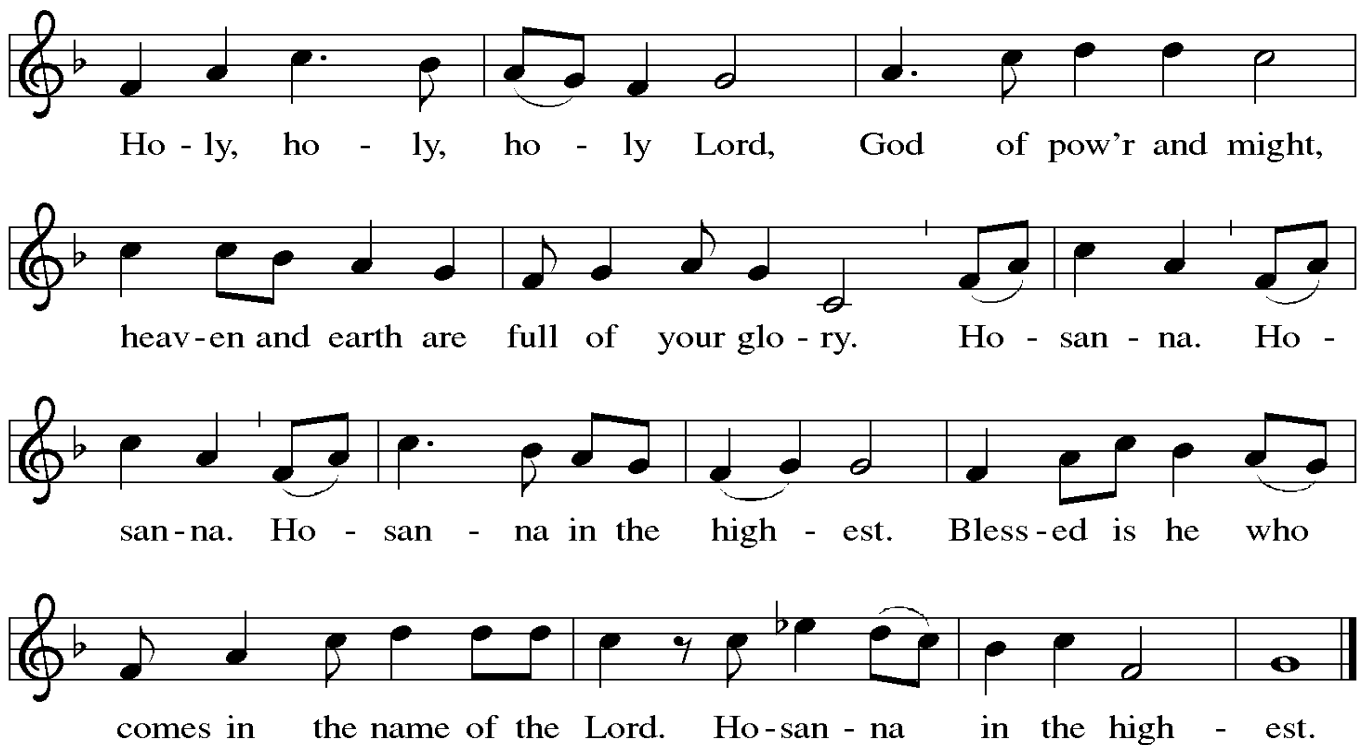
Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts. Through this small sacrifice, God's love is shown through us, to those who are in need.

***(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:** Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
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.

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 Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. 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.

C: Amen.

SENDING

*Blessing: (Please Stand)

Pastor David

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

C: Amen.

*Sending Song:

Light Dawns on a Weary World

726

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Lucas Plochberger
Audio / Video Technician	Roger Pennell
Reader	Sherrie Hanks
Council	Kent Nelson
Greeters	Audrey Bunch & Jerry Koestner
Communion Assistant	Jessica Stoermer
Communion Ware	Sharron Schneiders & Makayla Enowski
Altar Flowers	Rosemary Heidbreder

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Wednesday night Lenten Services: at 6:00 p.m. Pastor David has a program of weekly readers and we will sing the Holden Evening Prayer. The mid-week Lenten service envelopes will go to the ELCA Hunger Appeal.

Time for Easter Lilly orders: Please give info of in honor or memory to Katheryn by April 13th Flowers will be \$10 each.

2025 Central State Synod Assembly: will be held June 5 - 7 at Embassy Suites in Olathe, KS. Let Pastor know if you are interested in attending. Deadline to register is May 15. Church will cover cost for registration fee and hotel. (reservation for hotel must be set up by May 6).

Hymn History - The author of our hymn of the day, Count Nicolaus Ludwig Zinzendorf was born at Dresden May 26, 1700. He is described as a rare person of noble blood and worldly wealth that also allied with true piety and missionary zeal. At the age of 31 Zinzendorf resigned all public duties and devoted himself to missionary work. He travelled throughout Europe, Great Britain, and America, preaching “Christ, and him crucified,” and organizing societies of Moravian brethren. He authored around two thousand hymns and passed away in 1760. Our “Song, Jesus Still Lead On” can encourage us to life a fearless life if we allow Jesus to lead us to a heavenly future. Hymnary.org

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