

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>

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

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

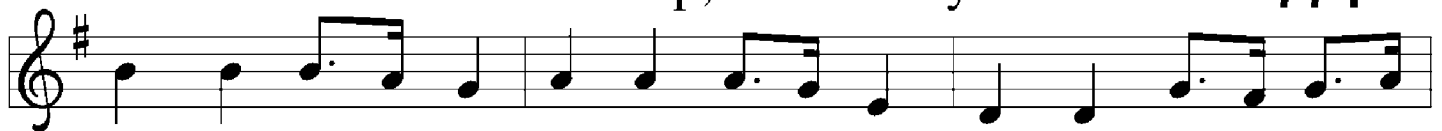
Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:**

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

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)

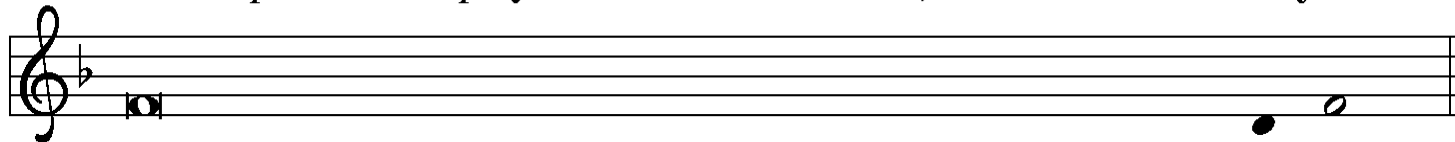
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

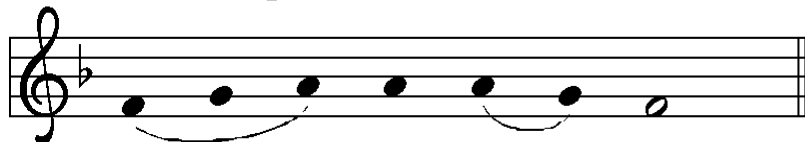
Kyrie:



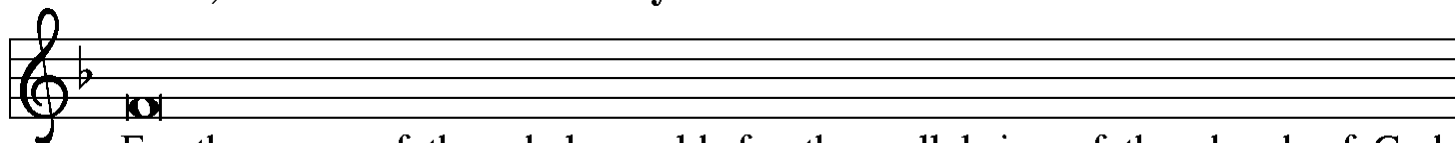
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



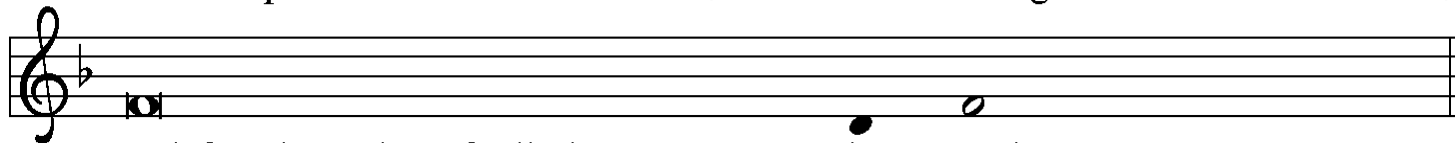
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



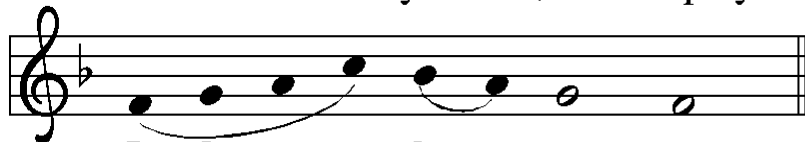
Lord, have mer - cy.



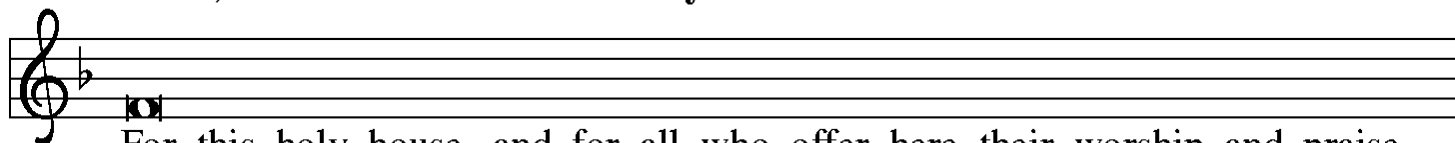
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



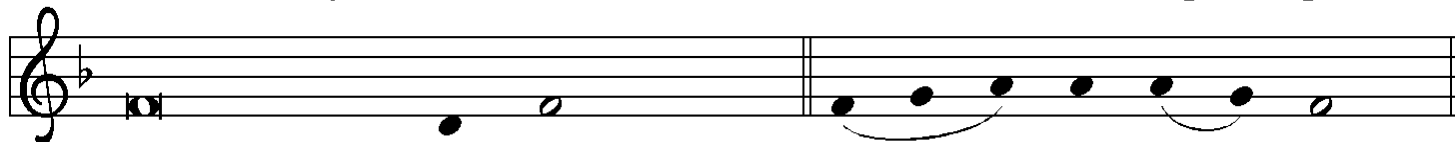
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



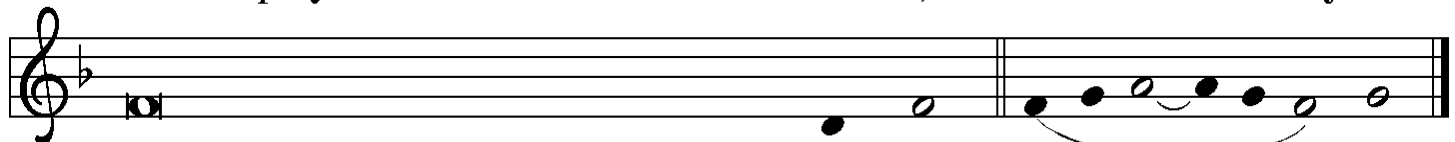
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



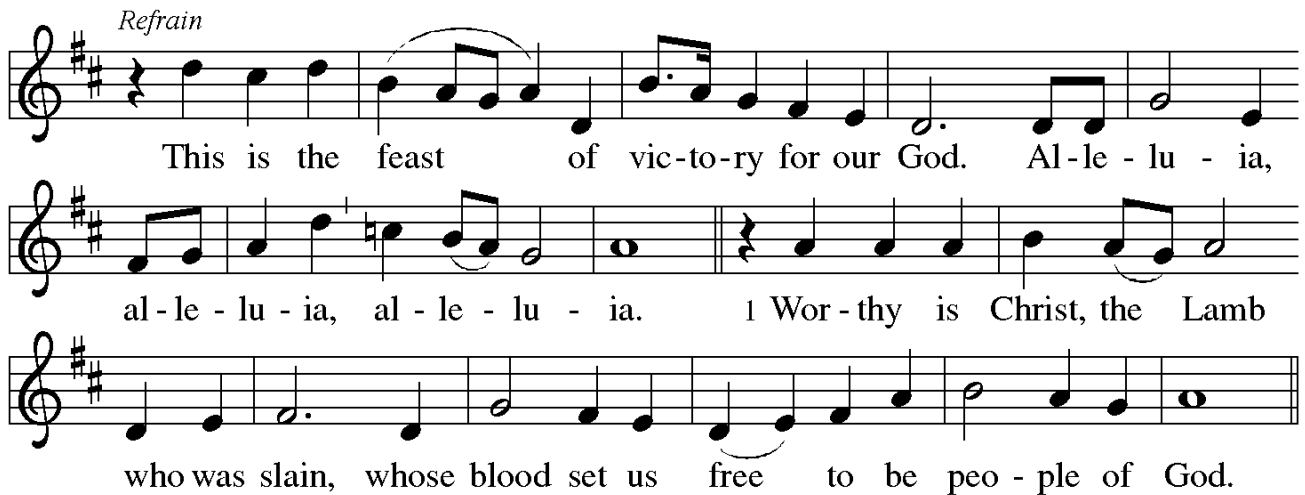
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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:

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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: “Only Trust Him”

Children’s Sermon

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Deuteronomy, the 26th chapter.

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with

a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

Psalm 91. (Read Responsively)

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”

Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.

For God will give the angels charge | over you, to guard you in all your ways.

Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.

They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

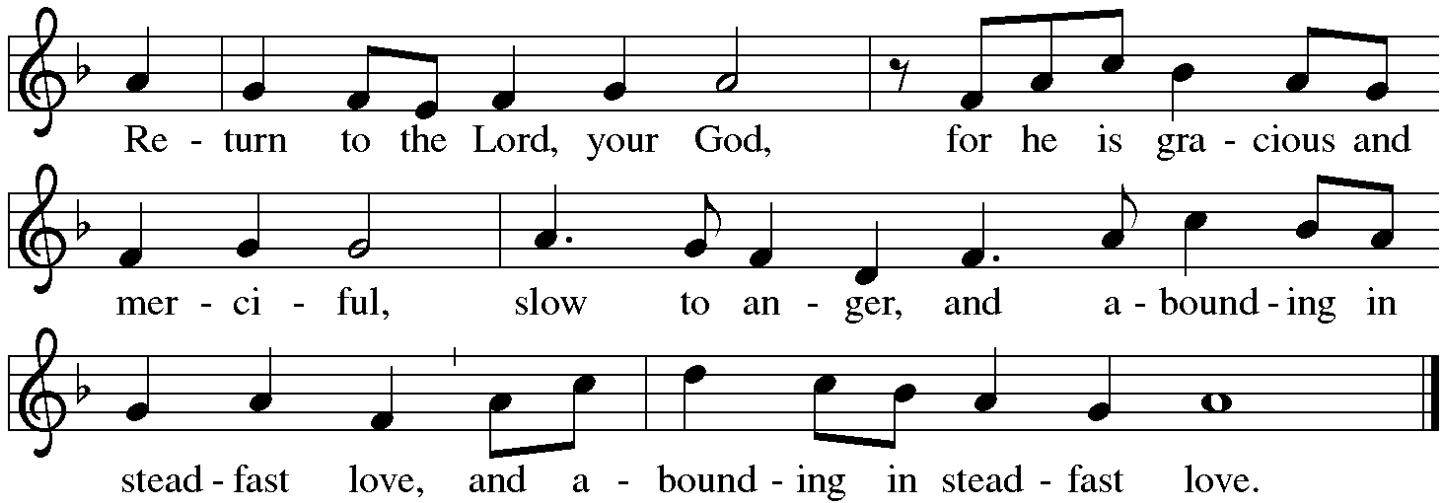
With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

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

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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 4th chapter**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

Sermon: "Filled With the Spirit"

Pastor David Viles



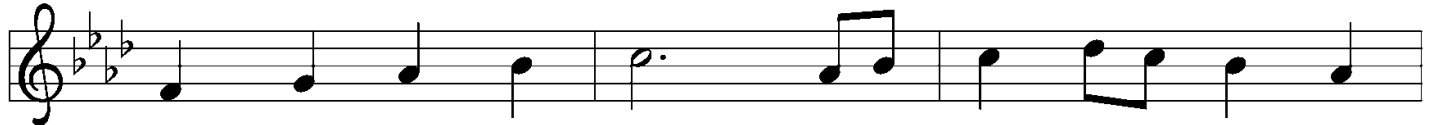
Hymn of the Day:

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

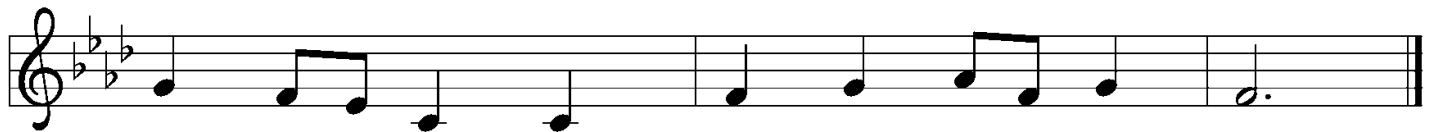
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1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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

*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.

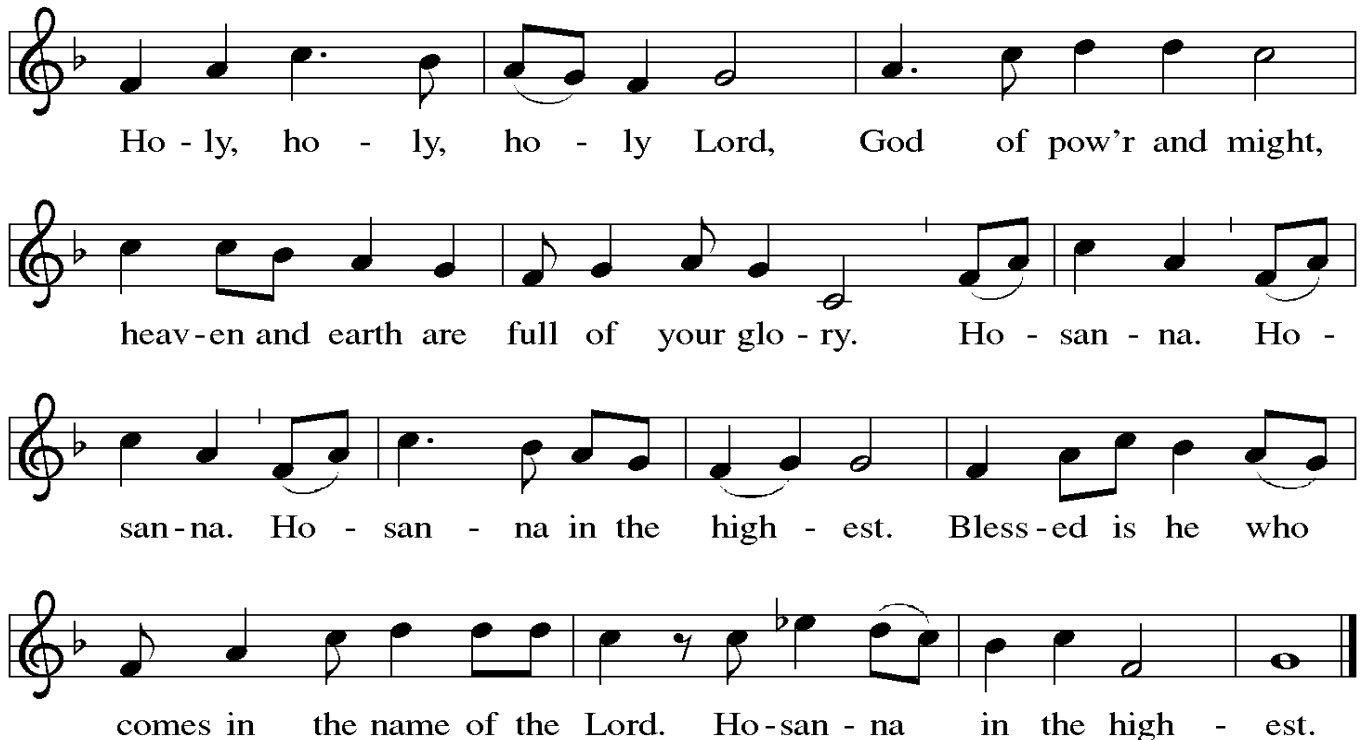
***(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***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.

Distribution of the Elements

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, grant us peace.

***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:

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

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The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Madline Schroeder
Audio / Video Technician	Dan Tschirgi
Reader	Carol Elliott
Council	Debbie Raithel
Greeters	David & Trish Russell
Communion Assistant	Trish Russell
Communion Ware	Sharron Schneiders & Makayla Enowski
Altar Flowers	Rosemary Heidbreder

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks ever so much for the “surprise” at last Sunday’s church service. It’s been my pleasure to serve as recording secretary for many years and know the duties have been passed on to a great team. Thanks too for the great reception. So special. The good Lord has blessed me with wonderful family and a special St. Paul’s church family. God’s blessing to all.

Marie Scheperle.

St. Paul’s Annual Pancake Breakfast is next Sunday from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM with all the Pancakes and sausages you care to eat. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors.

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

STARS will meet on Wednesday, March 19th, for lunch and a program. Our presenter will be Dan Cooper, Executive Director of Oaks Indian Mission, located in Oaks, Oklahoma, an organization which St. Paul’s, its members, and Margaret Circle support with financial gifts. Dan will share information about the Mission, its residential and day school program as well as its Humanitarian Aid Program. If you’ve always wanted to learn more about Oaks Indian Mission and its ministry, this program is for you! Let Rose Strobel (573-782-4553) or Jeannette Fischer (573-782-4594) know that you are coming!

P.S. We’ve learned that the pantry at the Mission is in need of specific items such as oatmeal, cereal bars, snack crackers, flour and sugar. Let’s send a generous supply of these items back to Oklahoma with Dan Cooper. Thanks for your help!

Church Directory Info: Appointments can still be scheduled for **March 18 – 19**. Please do your part and schedule an appointment. You will be able to schedule on line or we have volunteers before and after church service to help you with the scheduling process. Each family photographed receives a complimentary 8 X 10 portrait to be sent to their home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Hymn History - Today's gathering song is "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine," composed by Anthony Showalter and Elisha Hoffman. " The hymn is the result of an epiphany based on the text of Deuteronomy 33:27, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms". Showalter was a musician who conducted at singing schools. He studied music in England, France, and Germany and served as an elder of First Presbyterian Church in Dalton, Georgia. After serving as a soldier for the Union Army, Elisha Hoffman attended Union Bible Seminary in New Berlin, Pennsylvania, and was ordained by the Evangelical Association in 1868. Showalter was inspired by this Scripture after hearing the news that the wives of two of his former pupils had died and were buried the same day. In a letter of sympathy, he created the refrain out of a verse from Deuteronomy and asked Hoffman to write the stanzas. Source: Discipleship Ministries

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