

# WORSHIP: TRUE SPIRITUALITY

Sunday, February 5, 2023

9:30 am

## PRELUDE

“Give Me Jesus”

arr. by Marques L.A. Garrett

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## + Gathering +

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water--  
Lake Michigan, the Chicago River, the Skokie Lagoons,  
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,  
the water for drinking and bathing.

### *Refrain*

*Refrain*

Born, re - born! Born, re - born! Formed, re - formed!

Souls with glad - ness now a - dorned! Born, re - born! Born, re - born!

Formed, re - formed! Praise our God for - ev - er - more!

We praise you, O God, for our water stories –  
a flood that cleansed the earth,  
the sea that drowned the enemy,  
a river that healed leprosy.  
We remember the waters of Jesus –  
baptized in the Jordan River,  
calming the Sea of Galilee,  
drinking from Jacob’s Well,  
healing at the pool of Bethesda,  
washing the disciples’ feet. *Refrain*

We praise you, O God, for this font,  
 for you breathe into this water  
 to wash away the sin that divides us  
 and birth us each day into your peace and joy.  
 O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.  
 O God, you are the River, saving us from death.  
 O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.  
 We praise you, O God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,  
 today, tomorrow, forever. *Refrain*

Text from *Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reproduced by permission. Adapted by The Rev. Allison Bengfort.

GATHERING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision (ELW 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

## 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**Extravagant God, you have promised treasure in heaven that outweighs any we could envision or imagine on earth. Help us to be grateful for the amazing gifts you have already given to us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**+ Word +**

## READING

Psalm 20:1-7

A reading from the Psalms.

- <sup>1</sup>May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble,  
the name of the God of Jacob defend you;
- <sup>2</sup>send you help from the sanctuary  
and strengthen you out of Zion;
- <sup>3</sup>may the LORD remember all your offerings  
and accept your burnt sacrifice;
- <sup>4</sup>grant you your heart's desire  
and prosper all your plans.
- <sup>5</sup>We will shout for joy at your victory  
and unfurl our banners in the name of our God;  
may the LORD grant all your requests.
- <sup>6</sup>Now I know that the LORD gives victory to the anointed one;  
God will answer out of the holy heaven,  
gaining victory with a strong right hand.
- <sup>7</sup>Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we rely on the name of the LORD our God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>‘Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your God in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>‘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. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your God who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>‘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. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your God who is in secret; and your God who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup>‘When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your God knows what you need before you ask.

<sup>9</sup>‘Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

<sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Give us this day our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup>And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup>And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup>For if you forgive others their trespasses, God will also forgive you;

<sup>15</sup>but if you do not forgive others,  
neither will God forgive your trespasses.

<sup>16</sup>‘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. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by God who is in secret; and God who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

# Seek Ye First

*Descant*

Al - le - lu - ia, al -  
 D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and his  
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and  
 3 We do not live by bread a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 D Em7 A7 D F#m

right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be  
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be  
 ev - ery word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 G D G D Em7 A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.  
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.  
 mouth of God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Words: Matthew 6:33, 7:7, 4:4; para. Karen Lafferty, 1972, © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. Music Services  
 Music (LAFFERTY irregular): Karen Lafferty, 1972, © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. Music Services

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I invite you to assume a posture of prayer. You may sit, stand, or kneel; fold your hands or turn your hands toward the sky; close your eyes or lift your eyes to the altar.

Inspiring, creating, loving God, listen to us awhile as we speak from the heart the words we would like you to hear this day.

So often today we live as independent people, rarely participating together in communal activities. We communicate through technology, not speaking directly to people in the way we once did. We sometimes eat on our own, even although with a little bit of planning and commitment the family meal could still be a feature within our homes. We exist at times locked in to our own world, as bedroom doors are closed and computers are powered up, as handsets are picked up as soon as they make a noise, or vibrate, and our eyes become glued to the screen and our fingers tap away as we send a message— all the while not noticing the people in the room with us, or beside us as we walk.

Lord, help us see the benefits of time spent with others and encourage us to communicate and share experiences as we chat and do things together.

We remember people today who do not know how to pray and those who do not want to pray. As those who take prayer for granted, recognizing that prayer is the chance to talk to you, we recognize that for some others they have no external focus to talk to— either to whom to express their thoughts or convey their feelings. Surely this can be hard, leaving the risk of a person bottling up their feelings, internalizing their frustrations. We are glad that you invite us to share honestly and openly how we feel—even if there is anger or disillusionment present. We pray that your Spirit will awaken in people the understanding that you are a God who is ready to hear the prayers of all your people.

Lord, sometimes words are not needed. Sometimes a minister, pastor, priest or worship leader is not required to say out loud the words for us. So help us today in a period of silence to speak directly to you, as we each take the opportunity to tell you what concerns us, in our personal lives and in the world.

*Pause for silent prayers.*

Lord, thank you for listening today and for being available to us every day.  
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of peace with those around you, honoring the personal boundaries of all.*

## + Meal +

### CALL TO OFFERING

The first words of the Bible are about God's own generosity. God gave us the gifts of a beautiful creation, our home, the good green earth, and the animals that live here with us. This morning, we come together to thank God and to offer our gifts so that the ministry of this church will continue to grow and be a blessing to our community. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

### OFFERTORY

*We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!*



### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“'Tis Me, O Lord”

arr. H.T. Burleigh

### OFFERTORY VERSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

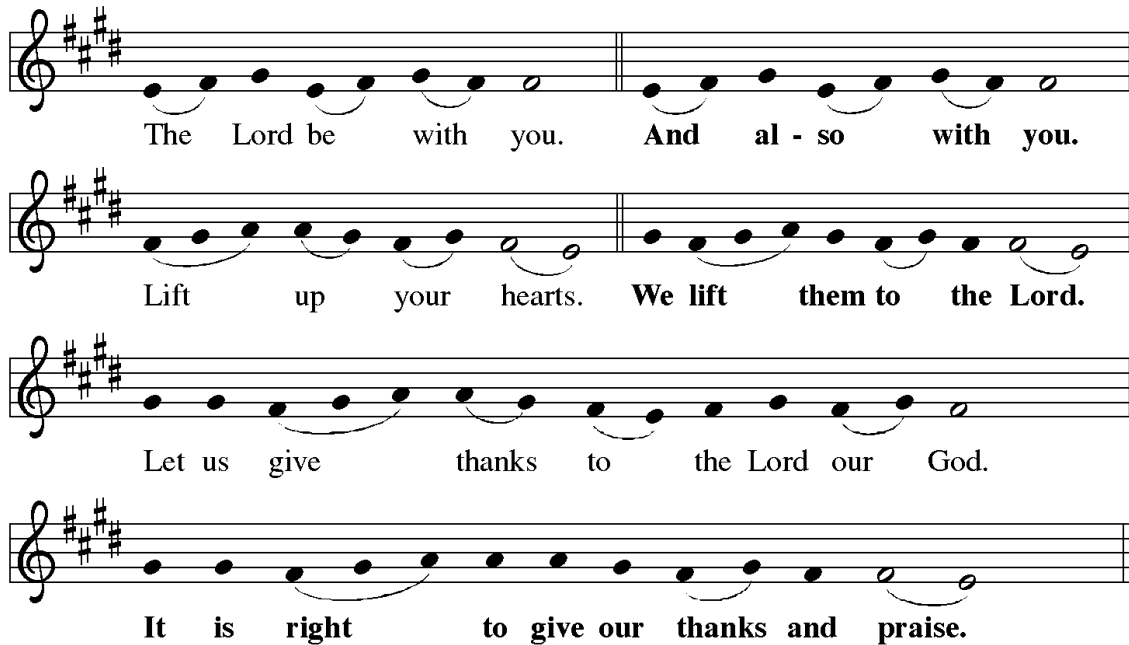


## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

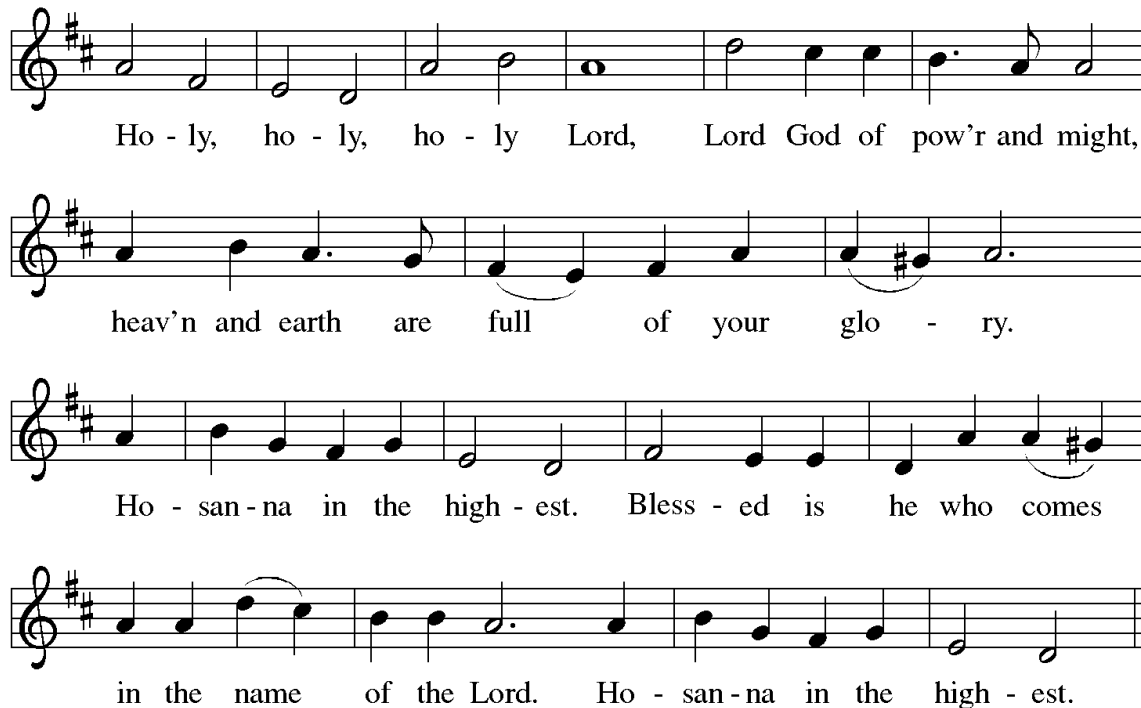
## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

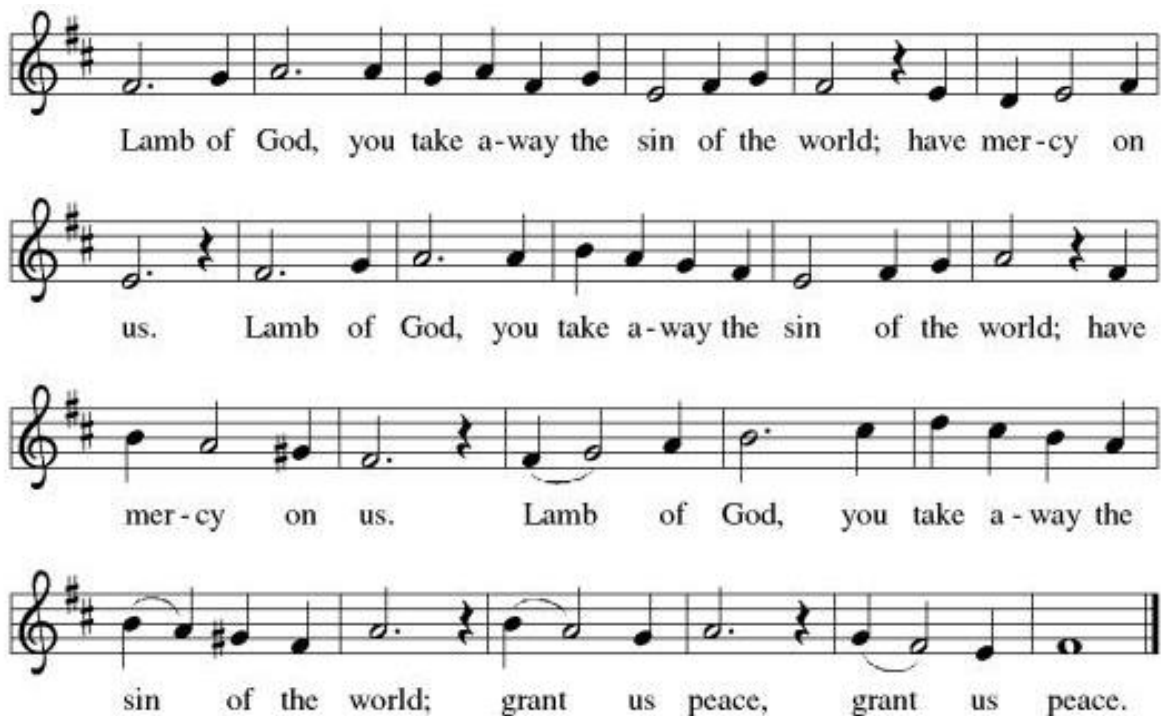
**God our Mother, God our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### INVITATION

### COMMUNION

*All are welcome to commune at Christ's table without exception! If you are online, serve yourself or those worshipping with you by saying, "The body of Christ, given for you," and, "The blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are communing in person, please proceed down the center aisle at the direction of an usher. You may receive bread or request a gluten-free wafer. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table for you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). After drinking, please place your empty glass in the basket before returning to your seat via the side aisle. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the sacrament will be brought to you.*

### 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.

## COMMUNION SONG

What We Need Is Here

*Join in the singing as soon as you have caught on to the tune.*

From “Wild Geese” by Wendell Barry:

Geese appear high over us,  
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,  
as in love or sleep, holds  
them to their way, clear,  
in the ancient faith: what we need  
is here. And we pray, not  
for new earth or heaven, but to be  
quiet in heart, and in eye  
clear. What we need is here.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.**

**Amen.**

+ **Sending** +

## BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor,  
and bring you peace.

In the name of the Creator, † the Christ, and the Holy Spirit,

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine (ELW 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.

*Refrain*



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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, depending on God.  
**Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“His Eye is on the Sparrow”

arr. Carl Haywood

## SERVING TODAY

<i>Preaching &amp; Presiding Minister:</i>	The Rev. Allison Bengfort
<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	Molly Bolash
<i>Minister of Music:</i>	Luke Duroc-Danner
<i>Cantor:</i>	Audrey Neace
<i>Ushers:</i>	Buckley Crist
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Susan Crist
<i>Camera Operator &amp; Zoom Host:</i>	Aidan Maglocchi

Worship elements are drawn from:

- *Spill the Beans: Worship and Learning Resources for All Ages*, Issue 14.
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- Scripture readings from The Inclusive Bible and the NRSV.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Welcome, Pastor Reierson**

Next Sunday, we welcome Pastor Kaari Reierson as our guest preacher. Pastor Reierson is the Social Responsibility Associate for the ELCA and founder of the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics*. She will also lead our discussion on the Biblical “Clobber Passages” after worship (see below).

### **Confronting the Biblical “Clobber Passages”**

Next Sunday, February 12, from 10:45-11:45 am, we welcome The Rev. Kaari Reierson to lead a discussion on passages in the Bible that are often misused to argue that homosexuality is a sin. The Rev. Reierson was involved in writing the ELCA's social statement on Human Sexuality and has been a resource for other congregations on their RIC journeys. Please bring your questions and curiosities as we engage with these tricky passages. Non-church members are very welcome to join us!

### **Black History Month Special Event**

Saturday, Feb. 4, 7:00 pm, Baha'i House of Worship (100 Linden Ave. Wilmette)

A special musical event celebrating music and art contributions from over a century of Americans of African descent. Music conducted by Val Gilmer. For additional information, check the link in your e-news this week.

### **Pastoral Care Needs During Pastor's Time Away**

Pastor Allison will be on vacation February 10-February 20. If you have a pastoral need during her absence, please contact Jan in the church office (847) 251-1730, and she will put you in touch with a local pastor who can help.

### **“Have A Heart” Valentine Benefit Luncheon for Holy Family**

The Women of Trinity Lutheran Church cordially invite the Women of St. John's Lutheran Church to join them for a Holy Family Benefit Luncheon on Saturday, February 11 at 11:30 am at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston. Please make your reservation by Sunday, February 5, by signing up in the gathering area or contacting Cindi Rachowicz by phone at 224-307-3513 or email (att41623@sbcglobal.net). Let's show our support with a table for eight. All proceeds will fund the annual tuition for a child at Holy Family School.

### **Our RIC Journey: Questions & Comments Invited**

This winter and spring, our congregation is doing the internal reflection and learning necessary to become not just welcoming, but fully affirming of the LGBTQIA+ community. This is called the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) process, which our RIC Team (Chris Maglocchi, Chad Johnson, Molly Bolash, and Luke Rasmussen) hopes will culminate in an affirmative vote at our June congregational meeting to become an RIC church. The team would love to talk with you about your questions, comments, or concerns, so please reach out to have a conversation. You may also place anonymous questions in the basket in the gathering area.

## **NOTES ON TODAY’S COMPOSERS**

**Marques L.A. Garrett** (b. 1984) was born in Hampton, Virginia, and currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Music in Choral Activities at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. He conducted the Chamber Singers and University Chorale as well as teaching graduate choral literature before earning his PhD in Music Education at Florida State University. An active conductor, Dr. Garrett is the artistic director of the Omaha Symphonic Chorus and founding conductor of the Nebraska Festival Singers. As a vocalist, he performs as both a baritone and countertenor. His premiere as a countertenor in Dan Forrest’s *Jubilate Deo* served as the work’s European premiere in Limerick, Ireland. As a composer, Dr. Garrett works predominantly with choral and solo-vocal music, and he has been commissioned by organizations such as Harvard University and Westminster Choir College. Among his latest commissions is his largest work to date, *Dreamland: Tulsa 1921*. This collaborative work with librettist Sandra Seaton for tenor-bass chorus, soloists, and chamber orchestra was commissioned by the Turtle Creek Chorale to tell the story of the Greenwood district of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Henry (“Harry”) Thacker Burleigh** (1866-1949) was an American composer, arranger, and singer, and he was instrumental in developing characteristically American music. Burleigh helped to make African-American music more widely available by arranging spirituals into a more classical form. Born in Pennsylvania, H.T. Burleigh learned to sing from a young age, and he served several local churches as well as a synagogue during his high school years along with appearing as a soloist in community and civic events. He attended the National Conservatory of Music at age 26 where he met Antonín Dvořák, the director of the conservatory. Burleigh was responsible for introducing Dvořák to African-American music, which influenced Dvořák's works composed in the US and led him to say that Black music would be the basis of American classical music. Burleigh would serve as the soloist for St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church in New York for 52 years, performed for King Edward VII in London in 1908, and sang at the

Temple Emanu-el in New for 25 years. Along with his many arrangements, he composed between 200-300 original songs, and he was a founding member of ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers)

**Dr. Carl W. Haywood** (b. 1949) was born in Portsmouth, Virginia, and holds advanced degrees in organ, composition, and choral conducting from Southern Methodist University and the University of Southern California. Dr. Haywood has since had a long tenure at Norfolk State university where he serves as the Director of Choral Activities. He also serves as the National Conductor for the 105 Voices of History. He has also served as the organist and choir director at Grace Episcopal Church in Norfolk and served on the Liturgical Commission for the Diocese of Southern Virginia, the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music for the Episcopal Church of America and as the Director of Music for the Union of Black Episcopalians.