

welcome to worship
U.S. SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL
July 5, 2026



PRELUDE

The Gospel Train African American spiritual, arr. Burleigh
Ellen Bryan, soprano

The gospel train is coming, I hear it just at hand,
I hear the car wheels rumbling, and rolling through the land.

Refrain:

Then get on board, little children, get on board, little children,
Get on board, little children, there's room for many a more.

I hear the train a-coming, she's coming round the curve.
She's loosened all her steam and brakes and straining every nerve. *Refrain*

The fare is cheap, and all can go, the rich and poor are there.
No second class aboard this train, no difference in the fare. *Refrain*

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, we confess to you all that we have been unable to do for your creation. We have fought with each other, neglected things, looked the other way and hold so much brokenness in our hearts. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. Send the spirit to guide us always to you. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Creator, † Redeemer, and Advocate, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

If I Had a Hammer

Hays and Seeger

♪ If I had a hammer, I'd hammer in the morning,
I'd hammer in the evening all over this land.
I'd hammer out danger, I'd hammer out warning,
I'd hammer out love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land.

If I had a bell, I'd ring it in the morning,
I'd ring it in the evening all over this land.
I'd ring out danger, I'd ring out warning,
I'd ring out love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land.

If I had a song, I'd sing it in the morning,
I'd sing it in the evening all over this land.
I'd sing out danger, I'd sing out warning,
I'd sing out love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land.

Well, I got a hammer, and I've got a bell,
and I've got a song to sing all over this land.
It's the hammer of justice, it's the bell of freedom,
It's the song about love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

READING

Zechariah 9:9-12 (The Message)

“Shout and cheer, Daughter Zion! Raise your voice, Daughter Jerusalem!

Your king is coming! A good king who makes all things right,

a humble king riding a donkey, a mere colt of a donkey.

I’ve had it with war—no more chariots in Ephraim,

no more war horses in Jerusalem, no more swords and spears, bows and arrows.

He will offer peace to the nations,

a peaceful rule worldwide, from the four winds to the seven seas.

¹¹⁻¹³ “And you, because of my blood covenant with you,

I’ll release your prisoners from their hopeless cells.

Come home, hope-filled prisoners!

This very day I’m declaring a double bonus—everything you lost returned twice-over!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 893

Before You, Lord, We Bow (stanzas 1 and 2)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (The Message)

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

¹⁶⁻¹⁹ “How can I account for this generation? The people have been like spoiled children whining to their parents, ‘We wanted to skip rope, and you were always too tired; we wanted to talk, but you were always too busy.’ John came fasting and they called him crazy. I came feasting and they called me a boozier, a friend of the misfits. Opinion polls don’t count for much, do they? The proof of the pudding is in the eating.”

²⁵⁻²⁶ Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: “Thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You’ve concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that’s the way you like to work.”

²⁷ Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen.

²⁸⁻³⁰ “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

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

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes God of grace, **receive our prayer.***

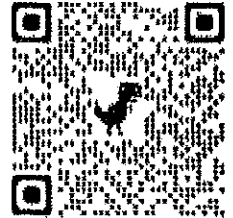
*The prayers conclude ... through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.***

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Offering this morning will be shared evenly with Common Ground. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.



OFFERING HYMN 887

This Is My Song

The assembly stands.

HOLY COMMUNION

Following the words of institution...

Remembering, therefore, Christ's execution at the hands of a ruthless regime, Christ's resurrection that buries death, Christ's ascension to rule with love forever, we declare the revolutionary mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

God, shed your grace on us. Shower your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on your people gathered this day. Ignite in us the flame of freedom—freedom from prejudice, from supremacy, from fear; freedom for acceptance, for welcome, for the shalom that you have first shown to us. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION

Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven: Taste and know that God is good to all.

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

COMMUNION MUSIC

Simple Gifts

Early American Shaker Tune, arr. Hayes

Ellen Bryan, soprano

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our delight, till be turning, turning we come 'round right.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 837

Many and Great

Native American tune

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

BLESSING

May the Spirit give you grace never to sell yourself or others short. Grace to risk something big for something good. Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. So may the Spirit take your mind and think through it. May the Spirit take your lips and speak through them. May the Spirit take your hands and do good with them. May the Spirit take your heart and set it on fire. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 890

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
Stanzas 1 and 2: all sing
Stanza 3: verse – soloist, refrain – all sing

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Recessional on “America the Beautiful.”

arr. Wagner

Scripture taken from THE MESSAGE, copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20325. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Assisting with Worship

MaryLou Hall, greeter

Sean McCrae, head usher

Susan Ziemer, assisting minister

Gail Dawson-White, Precious Johnson-Agiri, Bryan Wang, Karen Wang, communion assistants

Oliver Lord, Matt Shirk, sound booth

Susan Mehos, altar captain

Emily Shirk, sexton

Ellen Bryan, soloist

Katie Lyon, *Pastor*
Molly Haggerty, *Transition Pastor of Community Engagement*
Tom Yenser, *Deacon*
Jen Dauber, *Preschool Director*
Lauryn Lacis, *Director of Children's Ministry*
Arthur Wyse, *Visitation Pastor*
Crystal Shirk, *Office Manager*
Amy Rogers, *Financial Secretary*
Tom Scornavacchi, *Mission Developer*
Michelle Endy, *Room Coordinator*
Ken Lord, *Congregational Health Advocate*
Ellen Bryan, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

klyon@atonementwyo.org
mhaggerty@atonementwyo.org
tyenser@atonementwyo.org
jdauber@atonementwyo.org
llacis@atonementwyo.org
awyse@atonementwyo.org
cshirk@atonementwyo.org
arogers@atonementwyo.org
tscornavacchi@atonementwyo.org
calendar@atonementwyo.org
klord@atonementwyo.org
ebryan@atonementwyo.org

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

5 Wyomissing Boulevard

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081

610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org

The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ The Rev. Molly Haggerty ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America!
We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available with the ushers. The nursery will not be staffed for the summer, but the PRIVACY ROOM at the back of the church is available for families who would like a little extra wiggles room.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space. A FAMILY RESTROOM with a changing table is also located in the Privacy Room at the back of the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Monday—Thursday, 10:30am—2:30pm or by appointment.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788 if you would like to join the team.

DONATING TO THE COMMUNITY AID THRIFT SHOP can benefit Common Ground. Use the code **50244** when you make a donation.

FOOD DONATIONS of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable, non-expired items for Lutheran Pantry are always accepted in the grocery cart in the narthex.

COMMON GROUND DONATIONS of clothing and toiletries can be placed in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex.

PRESCHOOL still has openings for Together Time, T/Th Toddlers, and 3-year-olds. Contact Jen Dauber at jdauber@atonementwyo.org for information.

OUR LANDSCAPING TEAM is looking for new members! Contact John Lehr for details at 610-304-6818 or johnt.lehr@gmail.com.

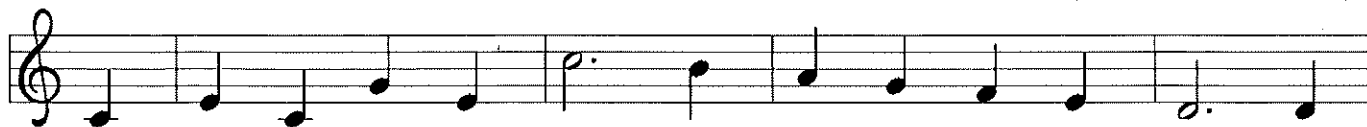
ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues throughout the summer at 9am in room F122.

YOUTH who have completed 6th-12th grade are invited to join Pastor Katie at the Western Berks Mission District Mini Mission Trip Monday, July 27. We will meet on Monday at 8:15am at Atonement and be back at Atonement by 5pm. Reach out to Pastor Katie after the service if you are interested.

MINISTRY MEAL SIGN-UP SHEETS are in the narthex. Join us for a meal while helping us focus on strategic planning and getting to know one another in the process.

PRESCHOOL CAMP REGISTRATION is open. Details can be found at atonementwyo.org, click PRESCHOOL from the top menu, then select Preschool Classes.

ATONEMENT WILL HOST FAMILY PROMISE the weeks of July 13 and July 20. Use the link at atonementwyo.org (select GIVE/VOLUNTEER from home screen, then scroll down to Family Promise) to see how you can help!



1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine

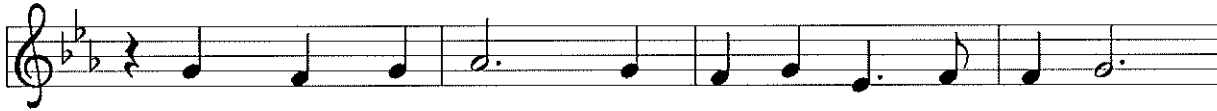


rules the world be - low with bound-less pow'r and love. Our thanks we
forth in wis - dom's light, and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry



bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.

OFFERING HYMN 887

This Is My Song

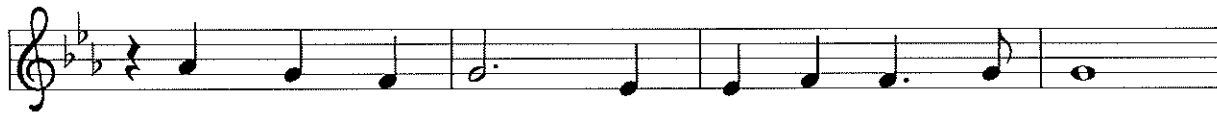
1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



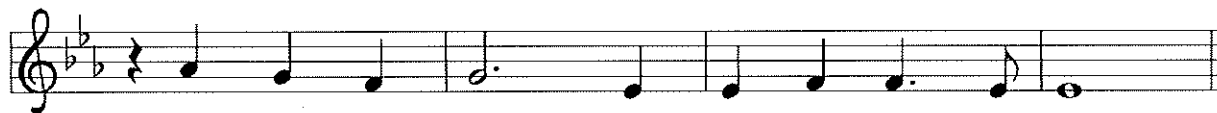
This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

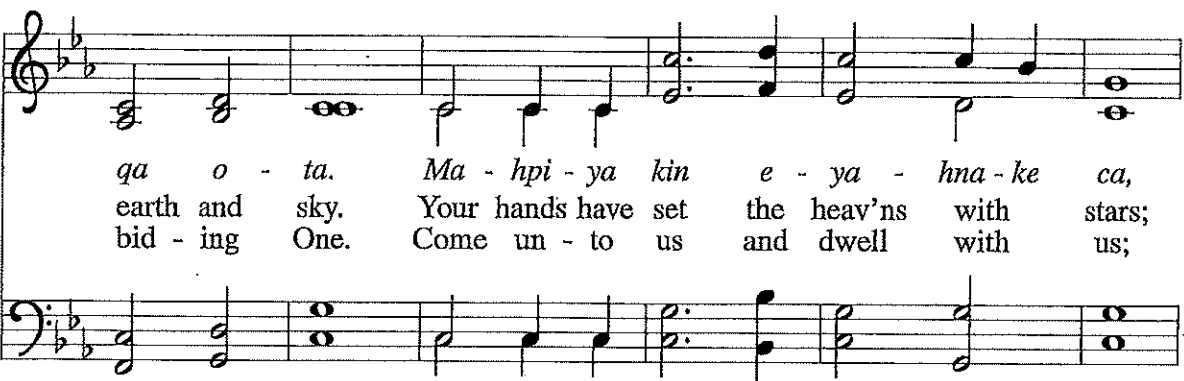


with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

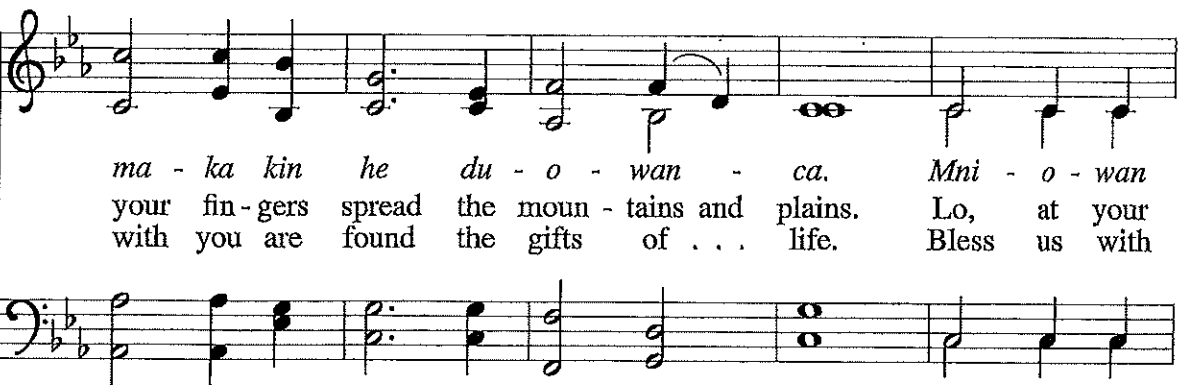
Many and Great, O God

Wakantanka taku nitawa

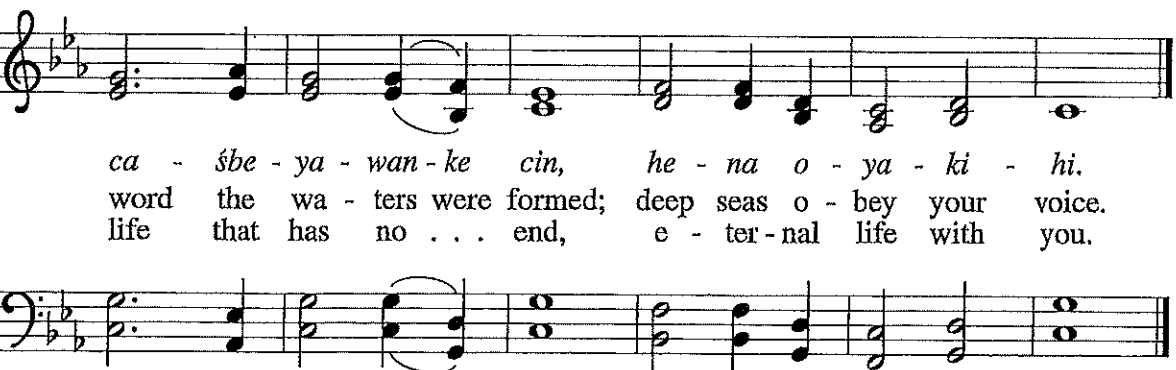

Wa - kan - tan - ka ta - ku ni - ta - wa tan - ka - ya
 1 Man - y and great, O God, are your works, mak - er of
 2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with you, O. Star - a -



qa o - ta. Ma - hpi - ya kin e - ya - hna - ke ca,
 earth and sky. Your hands have set the heav'ns with stars;
 bid - ing One. Come un - to us and dwell with us;



ma - ka kin he du - o - wan - ca. Mni - o - wan
 your fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at your
 with you are found the gifts of . . . life. Bless us with



ca - šbe - ya - wan - ke cin, he - na o - ya - ki - hi.
 word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey your voice.
 life that has no . . . end, e - ter - nal life with you.

890

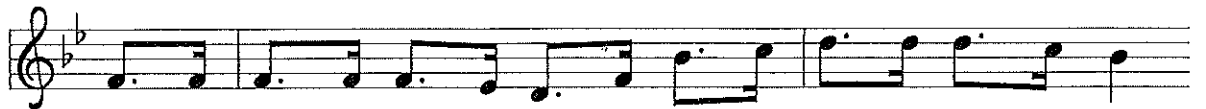
Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



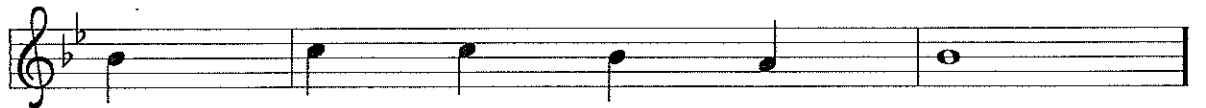
1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
 2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
 3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
 he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
 with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:
 Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
 As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on.
 while God is march - ing on.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

