

# Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

## February 8, 2026

*Modified ELW Setting 10*

Grace Lutheran Church  
Wenatchee, WA



## Welcome to Grace!

*The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.*

*We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.*

*You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.*

*As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.*

**Holy Communion:** We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!

**If you are worshipping with children:** Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options especially for our young worshipers. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers. We have a Cozy Corner, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed nursery available during our worship gathering. You will find it downstairs, through the first door to the right at the bottom of the stairs.

**Our Mission Statement:** "To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.



## Introduction to the day

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

## +++ GATHERING +++

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

### PRELUDE

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

arr. Sara Glick

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

ELW #665, *Rise, Shine, You People!*



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how he sends the pow'r's of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur-round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

## 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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**+++ WORD +++**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9-12

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 want God on their side.

<sup>3</sup> "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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:

    to loose the bonds of injustice,

    to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

    and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> 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?

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

<sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

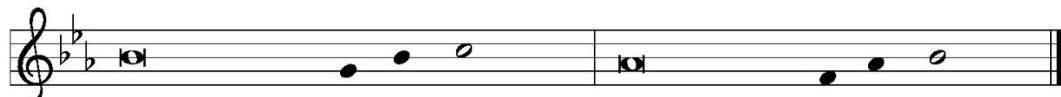
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM 112:1-10**

*The cantor introduces the refrain; all repeat it.  
Sing verses responsively, beginning with the cantor.*



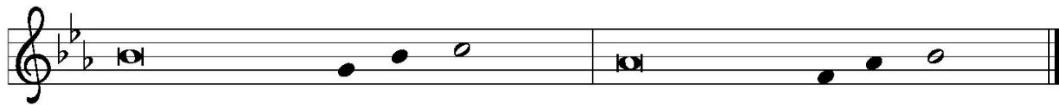
<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Happy are they who <sup>1</sup> fear the Lord  
and have great delight in <sup>1</sup> God's commandments!



<sup>2</sup> Their descendants will be mighty <sup>1</sup> in the land;  
the generation of the upright <sup>1</sup> will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be <sup>1</sup> in their house,  
and their righteousness will <sup>1</sup> last forever.

*... continued on p. 6 ...*



<sup>4</sup> Light shines in the darkness <sup>1</sup> for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full <sup>1</sup> of compassion.

*Refrain:*



<sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

<sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting <sup>1</sup> in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup> Their heart is established and <sup>1</sup> will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon <sup>1</sup> their enemies.

<sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands <sup>1</sup> fast forever;  
they will hold up their <sup>1</sup> head with honor.

<sup>10</sup> The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and <sup>1</sup> pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish. *Refrain*

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

*Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.*

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. <sup>13</sup> And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup> Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup> Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?"

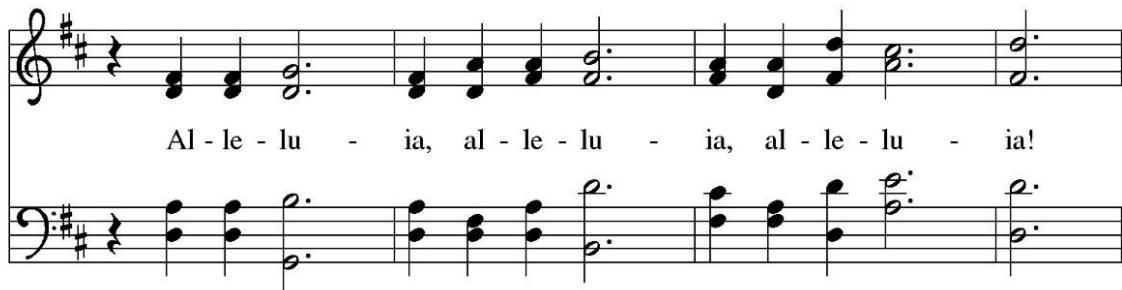
But we have the mind of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

#### **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.*

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #688, *Lord of Light*

*Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.*

1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent

suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing

as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -  
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -  
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions  
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that

fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.  
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:  
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:  
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

*Refrain*

Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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## APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our Christian faith:

**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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

***After each portion of the prayers:***

**Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

**+++ MEAL +++**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

## MUSICAL OFFERING

*We Long for Your Light*  
Voices of Grace, instrumentalists

Anna E. Daley

Oh Lord, we long for your light. Let the oppressed go free. Let the hungry be filled with good things. Let the thirsty be satisfied. Oh Lord, go before us, be our guide.

Oh lord we long for your light. Break forth into our hearts like the dawn. Rise in the darkness. Lord we've waited for so long. Teach us now to see the hungry in our lives and not to hide.

Declare to us our sins. Repair our broken walls, rebuild us from within. Restore our streets and raise up what we've lost.

*Please stand as you are able.*



*To donate electronically, use this QR code.*

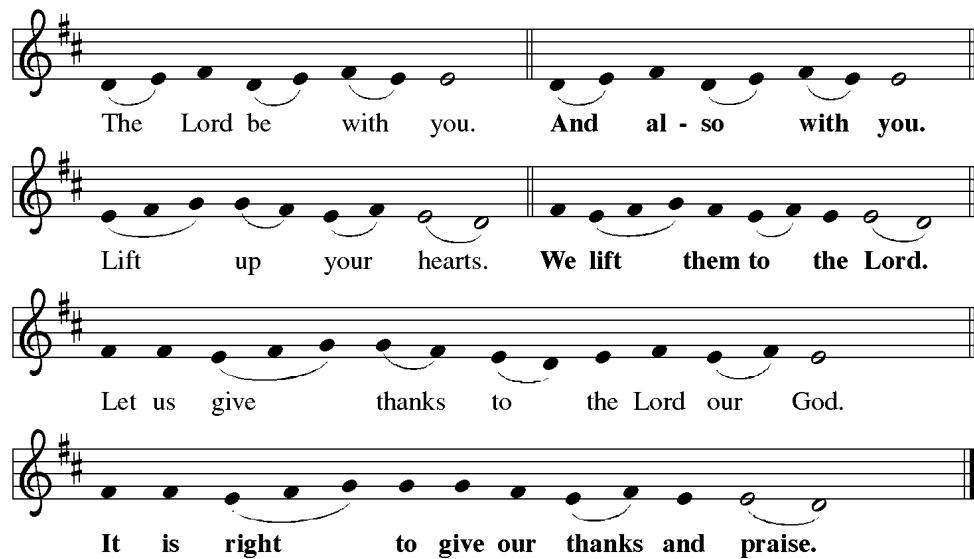
## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And also 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

It is indeed right ... join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Sabaoth* (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."  
*Hosanna* is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you... ...now and forever. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**

    hallowed be your name,  
    your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power,**  
    and the glory are yours,  
    now and forever. **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

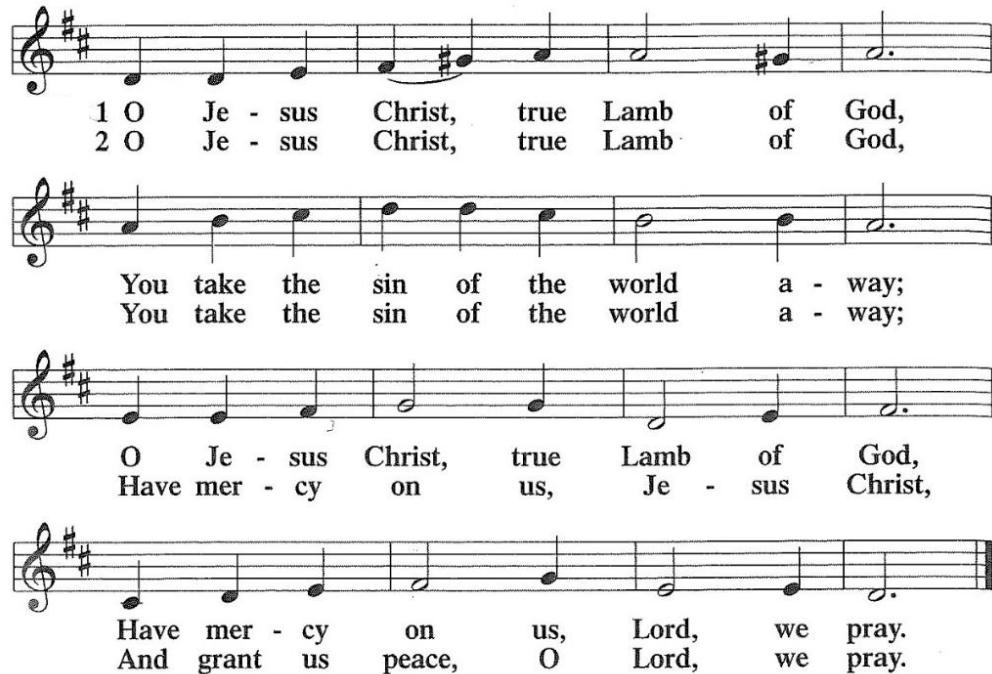
Come to the table; taste and see.

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #715, *Christ, Be Our Light*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the  
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants  
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed. shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

... continued on p. 13 ...

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
 church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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## DISTRIBUTION SONG

*ELW #677, This Little Light of Mine*  
*Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.*

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart.

Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+++ SENDING +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Please be seated.*

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

## ELW #866, *We Are Marching in the Light*

*Sing in harmony.*

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*... continued on p. 15 ...*

Si - ya - ham - ba \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_  
 We are march - ing \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_  
 We are march - ing \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## *We Are Marching in the Light*

## **Serving in Today's Worship**

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Pastoral Intern:	Laura Olsen
Assisting Minister:	Kristen Thorstenson
Lector:	Dee Ann Gregg
Cantor:	Kristi Lee
Instrumentalists:	Carlos Polivka-guitar, James Aalgaard-bass, Laura Olsen-drum set, Marlena La Paz, congas
Tech:	Phil Gregg

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