

THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
JANUARY 25, 2026  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Missouri Synod



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**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor**  
956.463.1305  
eweber10@aol.com

*Sunday*  
9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service

10:30 A.M.  
Adult Bible Class/  
Sunday School

**Holy Communion:**  
Every Sunday

[www.facebook.com/  
lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)

**Website:**  
[Misionemanuel.com](http://Misionemanuel.com)

Office Hrs., M-F  
8 am to 12 pm  
CCLI # 2585510

*The people  
who walked in darkness  
Have seen a great light;  
Those who dwelt  
in the land  
of the shadow of death,  
Upon them  
a light has shined.*

*Isaiah 9:2*

**JESUS**

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 25, 2026

### **WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32).

Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

### **A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Lord God, You call me to awaken to**

my need to turn to You for deliverance from the ravages of suffering, sickness, and sin. By Your powerful Word, draw me by Your grace and mercy to a living faith in Your salvation, Your help, and Your purpose for me, that I may live daily trusting in Your guidance and love; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the <sub>2</sub> Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

**PAGE 184**

### PRELUDE

*Who Can Dwell?*

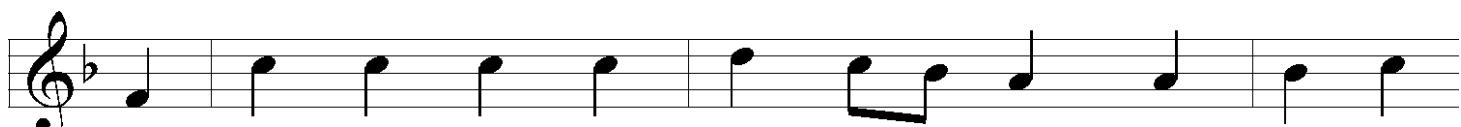
(*Psalm 15*) by Nathan Keys

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

*The People That in Darkness Sat*

**LSB 412**



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring  
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
 na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their  
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
 har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.  
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

**(Continue on next page)**

5 His righ - teous gov - ern - ment and pow'r Shall o - ver  
 △ 6 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us  
 all ex - tend; On judg-ment and on jus - tice based, His  
 Thine a - lone, Who with the Fa - ther ev - er art And  
 reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, one, And Ho - ly Spir - it, one.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

## INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
 C Amen.

## CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**INTROIT**      *Psalm 22:27-31; antiphon: v. 22*

P I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

C **All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.**

P For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations.

C **All the prosperous of the earth shall eat and worship; all those who go down to the dust shall bow before Him, even he who cannot keep himself alive.**

P A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation,

C **They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, that He has done this.**

P I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

**GLORIA PATRI**

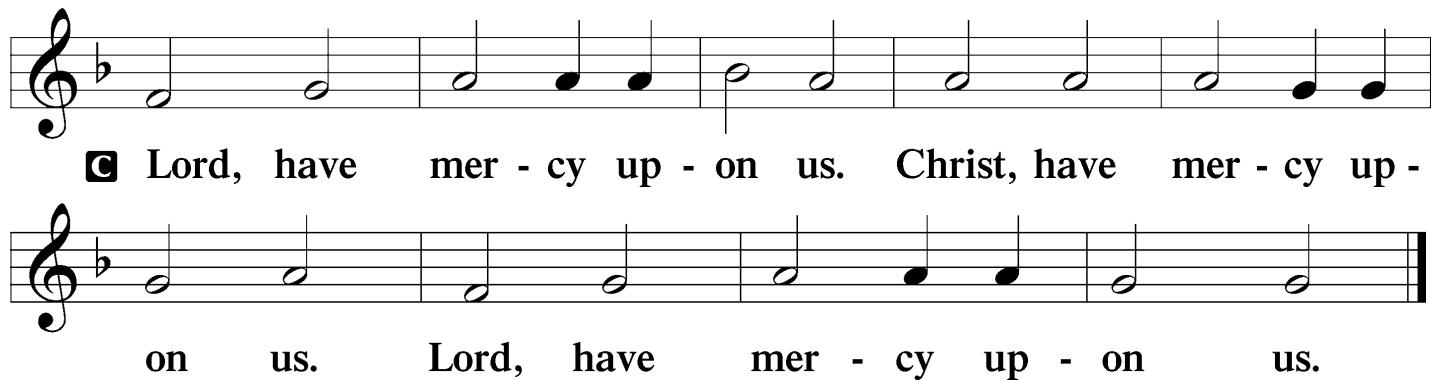


**Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;**



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

## KYRIE

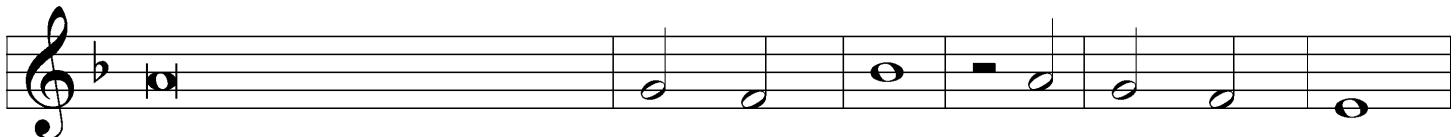


**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

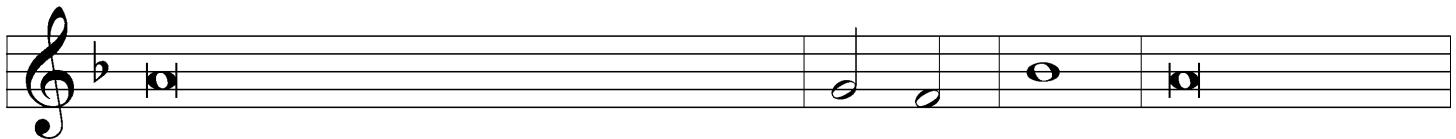
## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



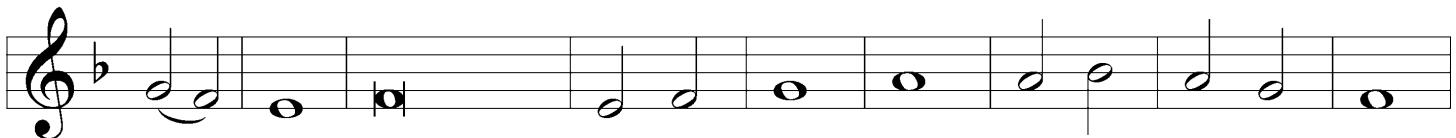
**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



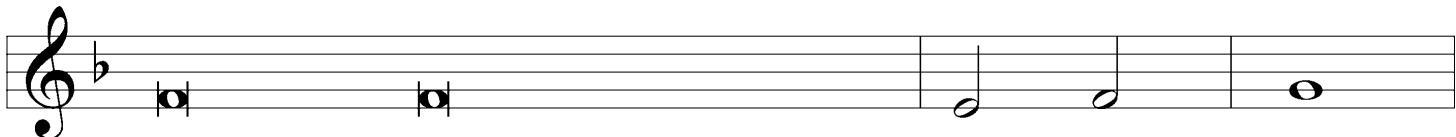
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



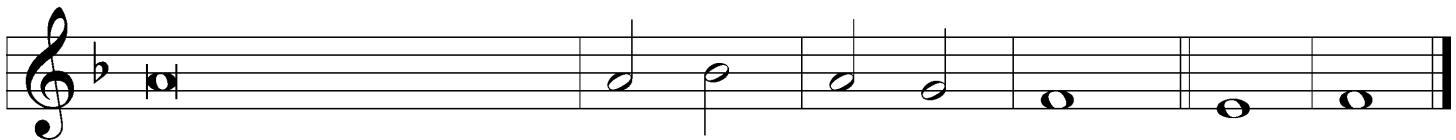
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

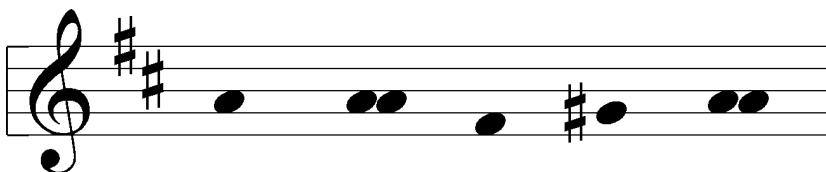


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

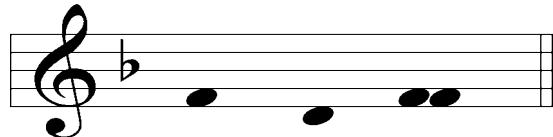
## SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



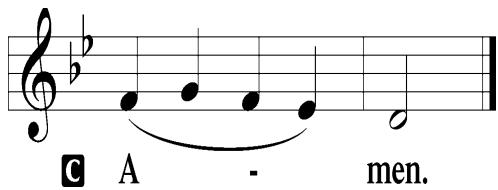
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with (Continue on next page) <sup>7</sup>

You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Please sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Isaiah 9:1–7*

(The light of God's reign breaks into the world.)

1 Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, as when at first He lightly esteemed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward more heavily oppressed her, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

3 You have multiplied the nation and increased its joy; they rejoice before You according to the joy of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4 For You have broken the yoke of his burden and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5 For every warrior's sandal from the noisy battle, and garments rolled in blood, will be used for burning and fuel of fire.

6 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**      *Psalm 27:1–9; antiphon: v. 1*

P The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**C When the wicked came against me to eat up my flesh, my enemies and foes, they stumbled and fell.**

**P** Though an army may encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war may rise against me, in this I will be confident.

**C One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.**

**P** For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

**C And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.**

**P** Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

**C When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."**

**P** Do not hide Your face from me; do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

**C The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

**EPISTLE**      *1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

(Divisions in the church)

10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. 12 Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. 16 Yes, I

(Continue on next page) 9

also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

## C    **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## ALLELUIA

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn 'Al-le lu ia'. The music is in common time, key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes on the treble clef staff. The lyrics 'Al-le - lu - ia.' are written below the staff.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 4:12-25*

(Jesus begins calling the first disciples.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

A musical score for a single melodic line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Glorious be to Thee, O Lord.' The first 'Glorious' is on a quarter note, 'be' is on an eighth note, 'to' is on a quarter note, 'Thee,' is on a quarter note, 'O' is on a quarter note, and 'Lord.' is on a quarter note. The melody ends with a final note on the eighth note of the scale.

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. 13 And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:

16 The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,  
and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
Light has dawned.”

17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. 19 Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you

fishers of men." 20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him. 21 Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. 24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. 25 Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## NICENE CREED

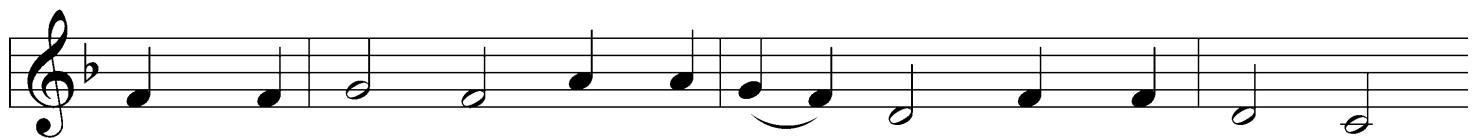
All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

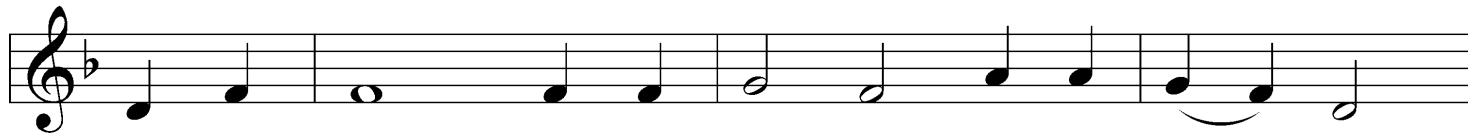
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please sit*

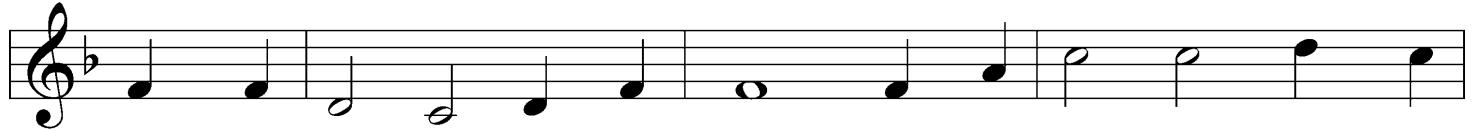
**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* **LSB 849**



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



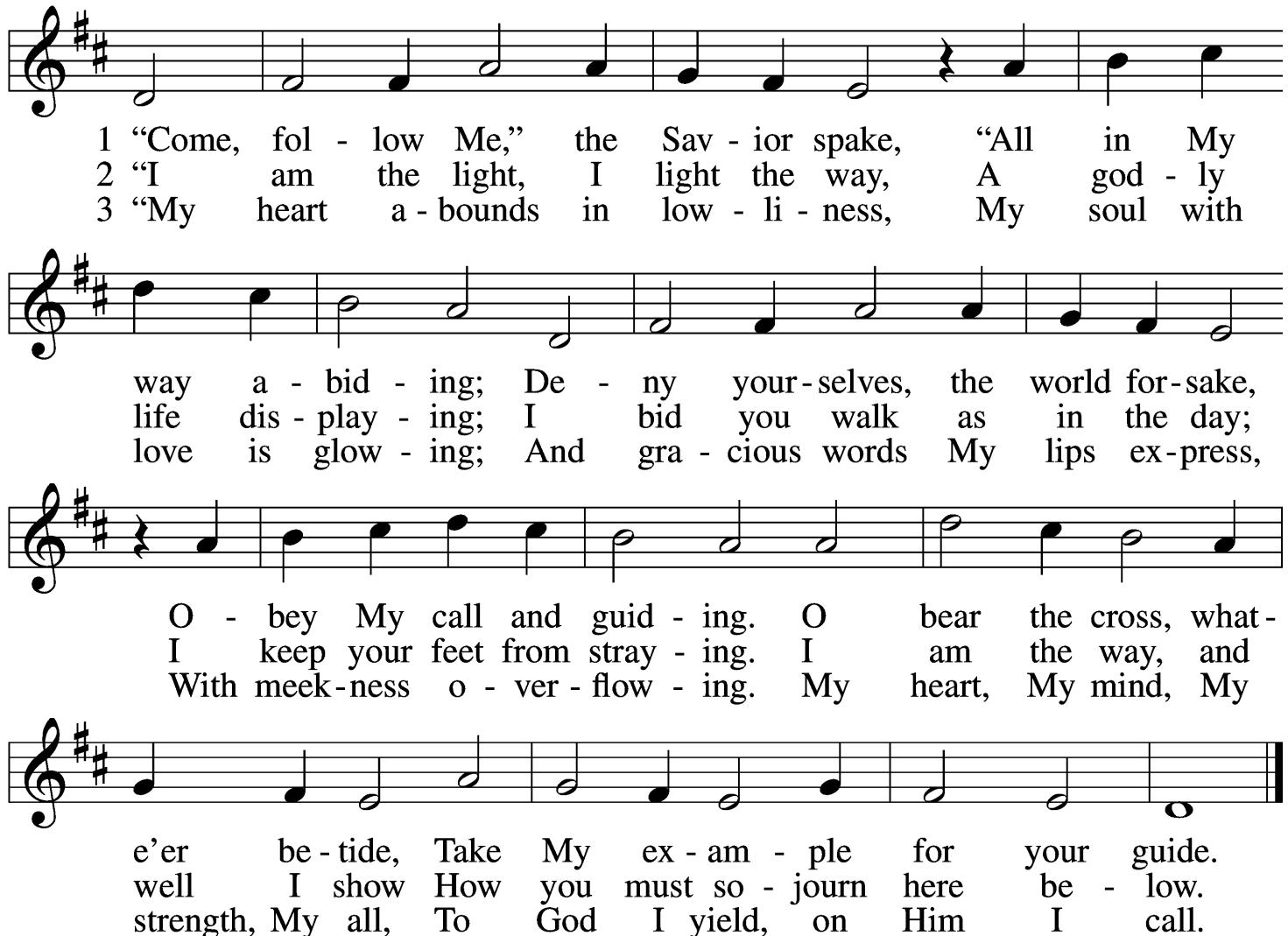
storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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**SERMON** *“THE Light has dawned in our darkness!”* Matthew 4:12-17

**OFFERING**

*Please stand*

**OFFERTORY***"Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake***LSB 688 vs. 1-3**


1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My  
 2 "I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
 3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with

way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,  
 life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
 love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,

O - obey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
 With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My

e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
 well I show How you must so - journe here be - low.  
 strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.

Text and tune: Public domain

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**    *"Peace be with you"*    [American Sign Language]**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH***Matthew 4:16-17, 19*

**P** "The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light."

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**(Continue on next page)**

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Jesus says, "Follow Me." Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [especially . . .]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** As You shone Your Light of salvation in the lands of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so shine Your Light on our nation, that those dwelling in the darkness of sin may repent and believe in Jesus, the Light of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

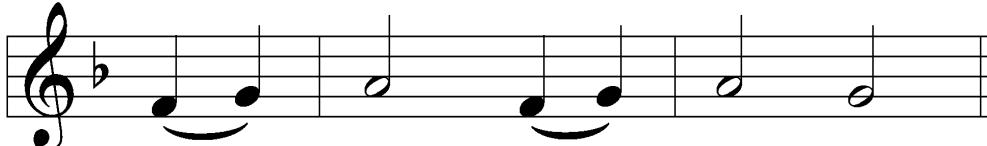
**C** Amen.

### + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

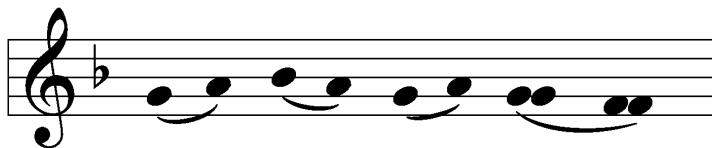
## PREFACE



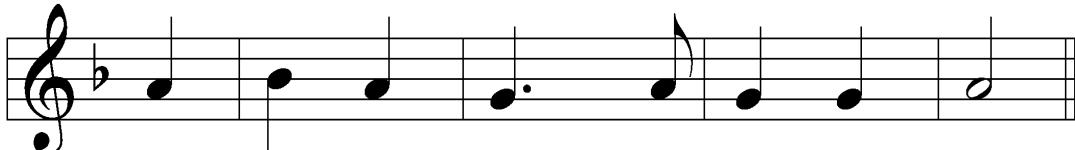
**P** The Lord be with you.



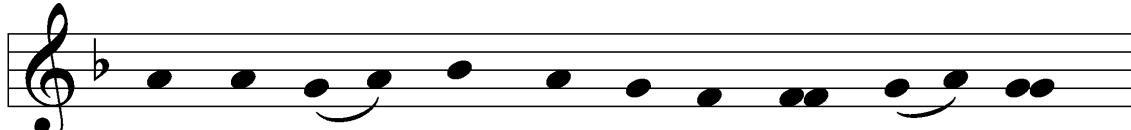
**C** And with thy spir - it.



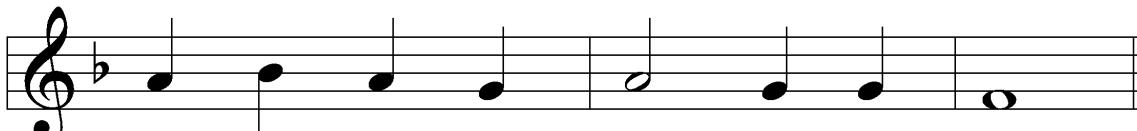
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



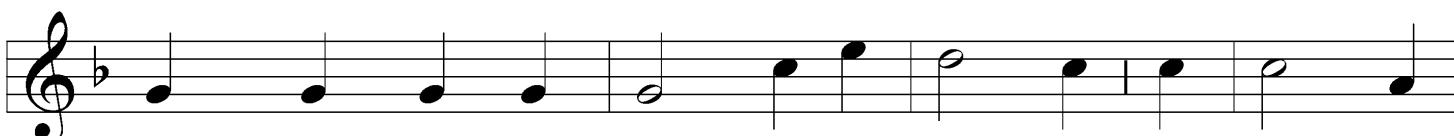
**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

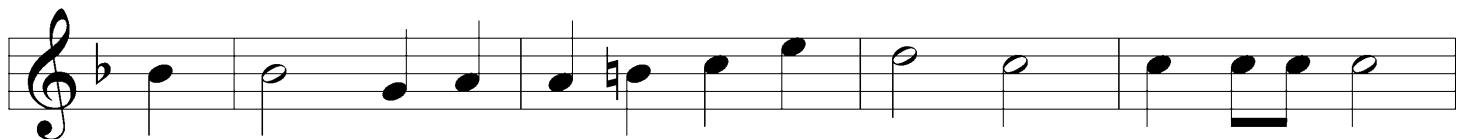
## SANCTUS



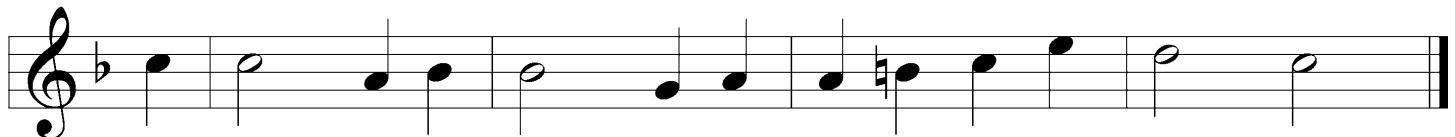
**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



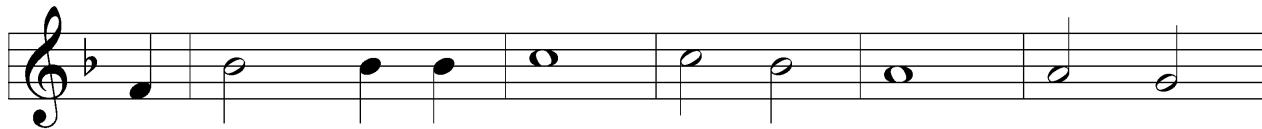
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

**C** 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 for give us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.



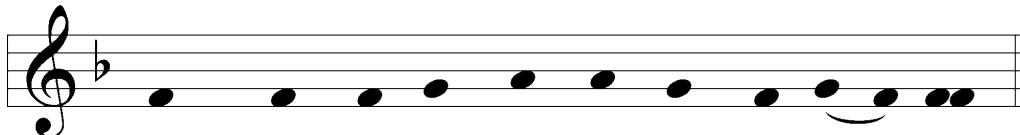
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

**P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

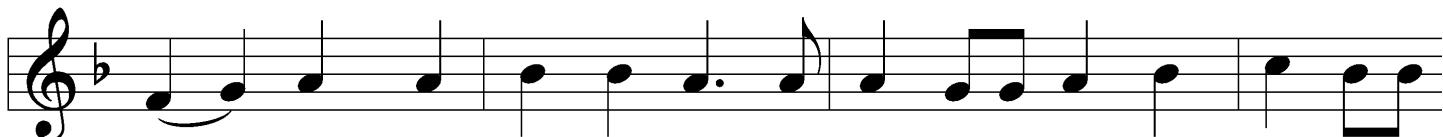


**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

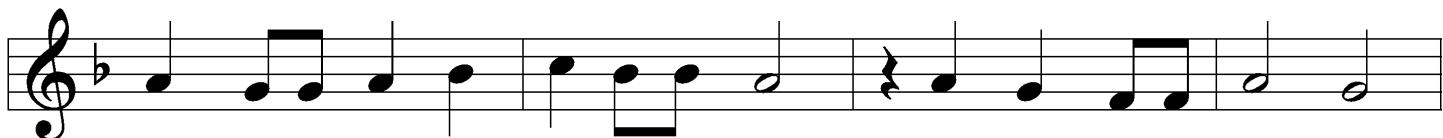
## AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



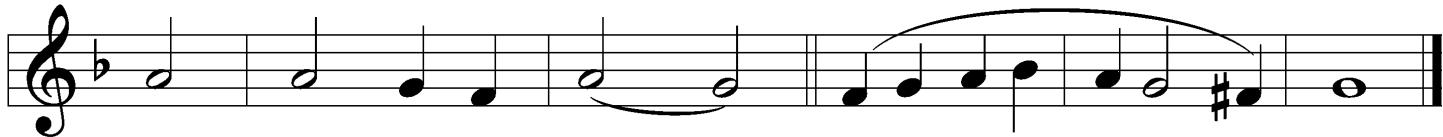
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Please sit*

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly

table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and  
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners  
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I  
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my  
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -  
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in  
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt  
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -  
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



alone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:  
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.  
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:  
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

*Refrain*

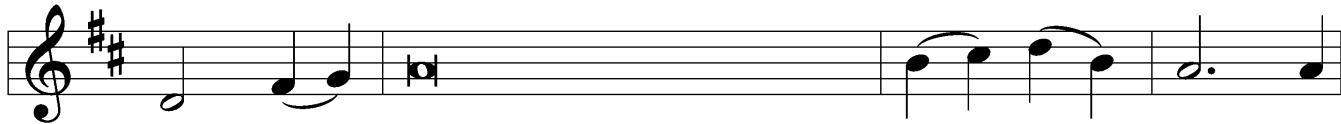


Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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*Please stand*

## NUNC DIMITTIS



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-

cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
 C and His mercy endureth for - ev - - er.

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## BENEDICAMUS

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make

His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\text{\texttildelow}$  give you peace.



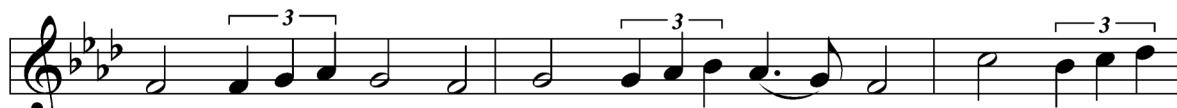
**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Please sit*

**SENDING HYMN**

*Thy Strong Word*

**LSB 578 vs. 1,2,5,6**



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glo - ry, Tongues Thy  
 △ 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 mer - cy to pro - claim, Throats that shout the  
 laud and hon - or be. To Thee, Light of



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy ho - ly name.  
 Light be - got - ten, Praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! May the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, Glo - ry,



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with  
 glo - ry be to Thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ias, Al - le - lu - ias with - out end!  
 now and ev - er Praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

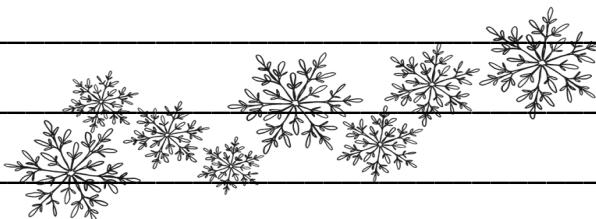
## C    Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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## ***Sermon Notes***



## DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- > Portals of Prayer for October to December 2025 are available in the Narthex or office.
- > Join us for Sunday School and Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Goetz is leading the class.
- > Plastic bottle caps and can tabs ARE still being collected.
- > Family Confirmation Class - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > Adult Confirmation Class - Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > Men's Steak Night/Bible Study, Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- > Polka Fest Saturday, February 7th in the Social Hall; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You are welcome to bring potato salad. (free will door donation)

Budgeted Need:	\$ 17,922
Actual Giving:	\$ 13,275
Over/(Shortfall:	(\$ 4,647)

For Church Balances, see Treasurer Reports

**1/18/2026**

**Sunday Worship**

**116**

Plate:	\$ 738.00
Envelopes:	\$ 3,653.00
Donation: Cemetery	\$100
Other Income: Donations	\$ 1,500.00
On-Line Donation-Thrivent	\$ 73
Memorial: Mildred Twenhaf	\$ 950.00
Memorial On-line:	\$ 250.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 7,264.00</b>
Bible Class:	28
	\$ 36.00

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE  
EPIPHANY**

*Micah 6:1-8*

*Psalm 15*

*1 Corinthians 1:18-31*

*Matthew 5:1-12*

## The Lord Manifests His Glory through His Office of the Holy Ministry

By His coming in the flesh and by His preaching and miracles, the Lord Jesus shines the light of His Gospel upon “the people who walked in darkness” and “who dwelt in a land of deep darkness” (Is. 9:2). He also has “multiplied the nation” and “increased its joy” (Is. 9:3) by calling disciples to Himself from the ends of the earth. For this purpose, He calls Peter and Andrew, with James and John, to follow Him and be “fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19). As Jesus did, they also go forth “proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people” (Matt. 4:23). They preach the foolishness of the cross of Christ as the very power and wisdom of God. This word and preaching of the cross divides “those who are perishing” from “us who are being saved” (1 Cor. 1:18), but it unites the Church, the one Body of Christ, “in the same mind and the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10).

### Memory Verse Challenge: **Leviticus 19:18**

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
<b>January Sunday Servants:</b>		
Elder:	Don Vogel	
Altar Guild:	Pam Terral/Maggie Weber	
Music:	Doris Pickering/ Bob Kaemmerer	
<b>This Week</b>	<b>Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	
Usher:	Byron Terral	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am