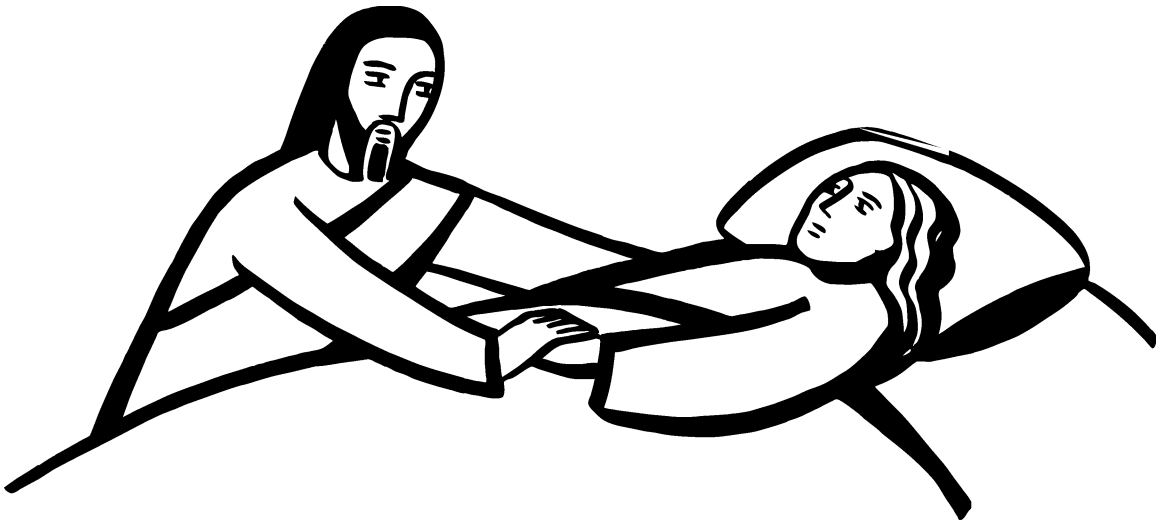


Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
at Swan's Trail

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany




REVEREND JOSEPH PAXTON (PASTOR JP)
MUSIC DIRECTOR BONNIE THORESON

*Please stand as you are able

*GATHERING HYMN


“GOD, WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD”



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

P This is the day the Lord has made.

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

SONG OF PRAISE

SHOUT TO THE LORD



My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.



My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

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THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON ISAIAH 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

A reading from Isaiah:

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy

One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of God, the Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c (Read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.

³The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴The Lord counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to God’s wisdom.

⁶The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who await God’s steadfast love. ^{20c}Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON 1 CORINTHIANS 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of God, the Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL VERSE

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



HOLY GOSPEL MARK 1:29-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the gospel of our Lord.

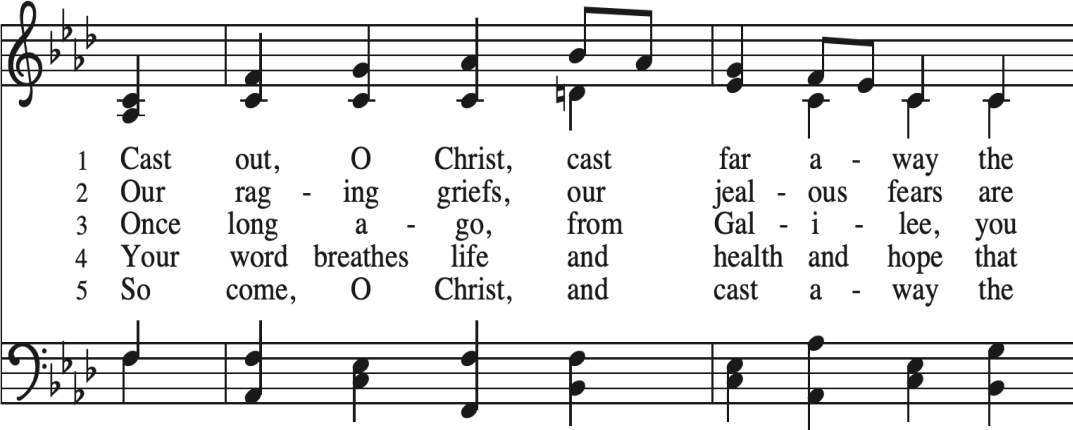
C **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY


REVEREND JOSEPH PAXTON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

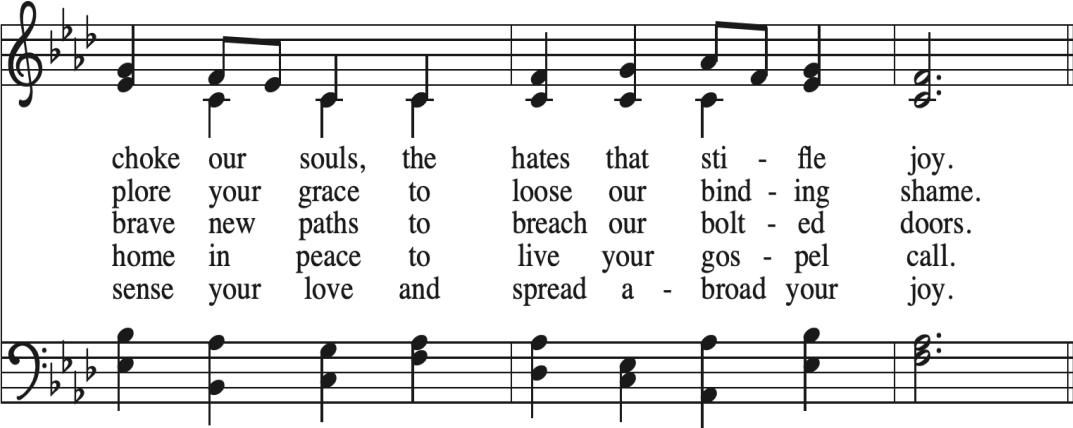
“CAST OUT, O GOD”



1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the



de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to



choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

APOSTLES CREED

P God has made us His people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

ALL I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

(Between the first and last prayer, congregation please share in reading the prayers)

P As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into

understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need, especially those we name before you today (*a brief silence*). God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God of Peace, we pray for all those places in the world where there is war and violence. Protect all who are in harm's way and comfort those who mourn. Give wisdom to those in authority, that they put an end to conflict, and work towards peace. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another in whatever way you feel most comfortable.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY**

“WE COME NOW TO YOUR TABLE, LORD”

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.

You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:

and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

CELEBRATING THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy, are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

P Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, and his glorious resurrection and ascension, we pray for his coming again even as we cry: Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

C **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation. Empower us by that same Spirit, to love and forgive, that our lives may anticipate that day when you will make all things new. Amen! Come, Holy Spirit.

C **Amen! Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**C Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P The risen Christ is in our midst, so with Christ we pray.

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 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 TO COMMUNION

P Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

“ON EAGLE’S WINGS”

Leader or All



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: “My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!”

Refrain
All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.



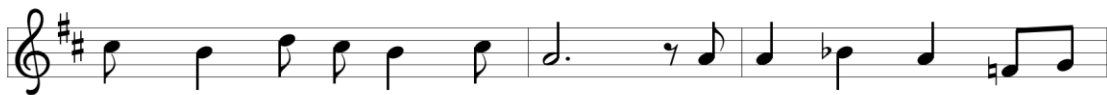
3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.



4 For to the an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand to



guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will



bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



***GOD’S BLESSING**

P The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. (*Brief silence is kept*) Giver of every gift, Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P And now may the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor, and grant you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

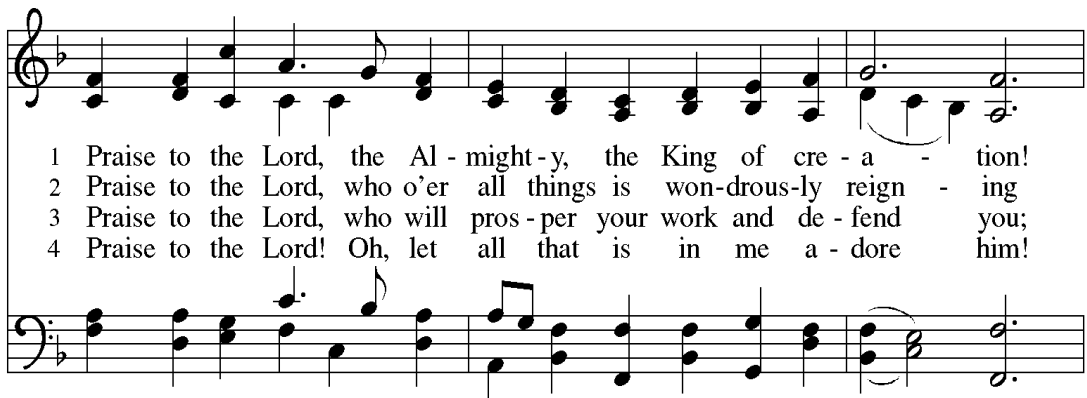
C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

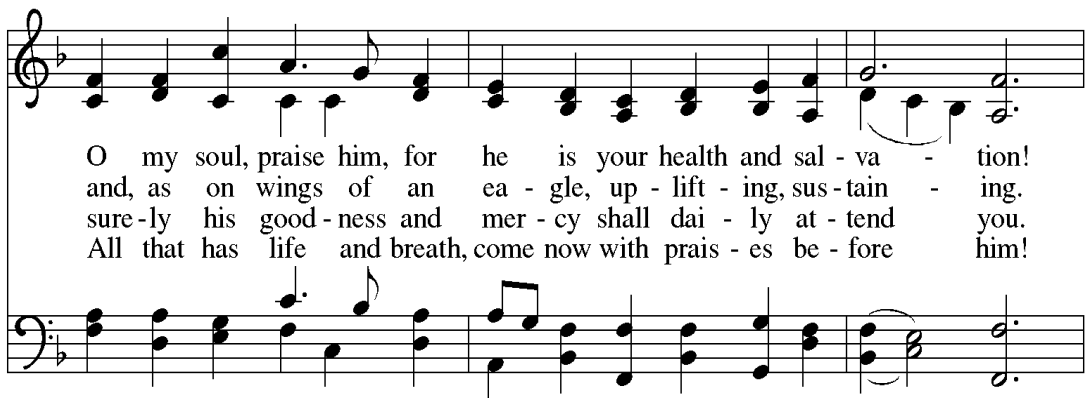
P Go in peace. You are God’s beloved.

C **Thanks be to God.**

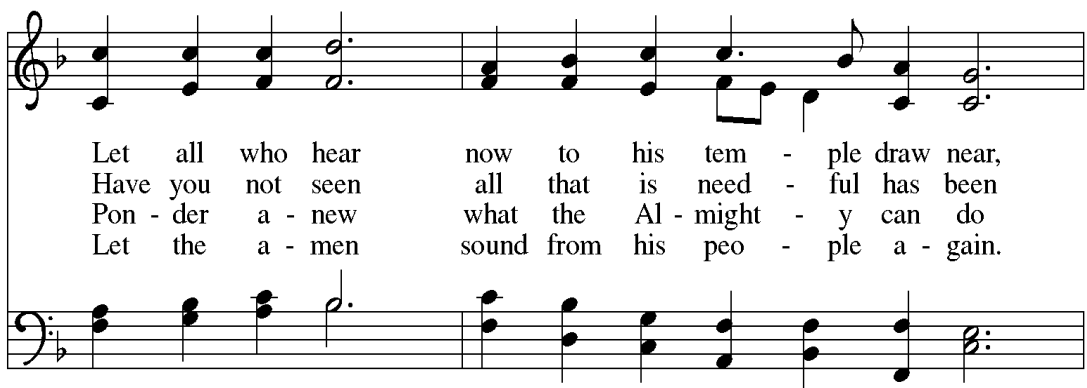
SENDING HYMN “PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY”



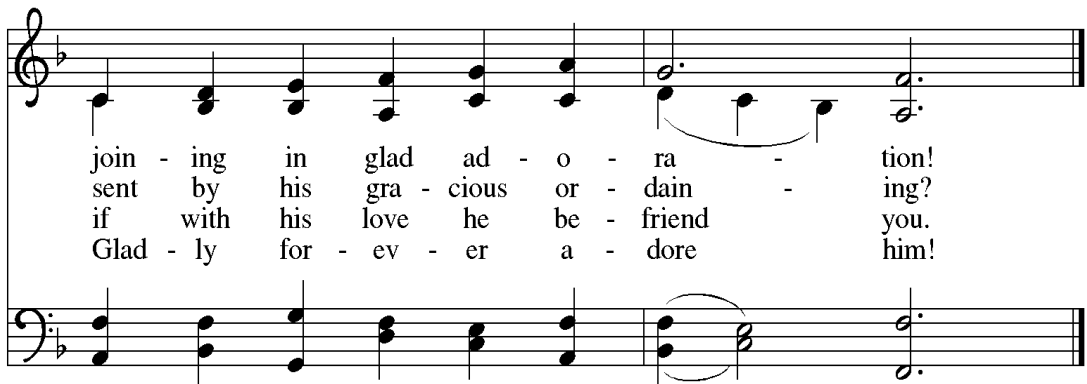
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure-ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!