

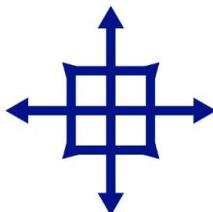
Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 27th, 2022



Photo by Vicki Heitsch

The Man Born Blind ***John 9:1-41***



MUHLENBERG
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Transfiguration of Our Lord ~ FEBRUARY 27, 2022

WELCOME

We welcome you in the name of Christ. **We love welcoming guests/visitors** and encourage you to complete one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering basket, or **scan this QR Code** with your smart phone to complete the visitor card digitally. We have a gift for you at our Welcome Desk – please stop by after worship. You are invited to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet. All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing! For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this booklet. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken by the whole congregation. We stand for portions of our worship service. **Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer.**



HEALTH AND SAFETY

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, certain measures are in place for our time of worship to be as safe and healthy as possible. **Well-fitted masks will be required for all in-person worshippers, regardless of vaccination status.** Masks are a way we protect those around us, and we wish to create a worship space that is as safe as it can be for those under 5 who cannot be vaccinated yet. Physical distancing will be in place in the sanctuary with every other row in use. We highly recommend all worshippers over age 5 be vaccinated and boosted, if possible.

OUR WORSHIP

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God’s constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Narrative Lectionary (a four-year cycle of scripture readings in biblical order), we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time. *For details, see “About Our Worship” on the last page.*

Worship will be live-streamed at 11:00 am. Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with the Wellstream service at 11:00 am allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community for a service of Holy Communion. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex or Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org).

OTHER NOTES

- **Amplification devices** for the hearing impaired are available from ushers or at the Welcome Desk.
- A **restroom** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).

MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD’S GRACE

Open ✠ Authentic ✠ Relational ✠ Serving

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Pastor Alex Zuber

281 E. Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 434-3496
www.muhlenberglutheran.org

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God’s people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

A Day to Celebrate (K. Wissinger)

Gloria Dei Ringers

(We stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation turns and faces the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ Beautiful Savior

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

~see next page~

Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

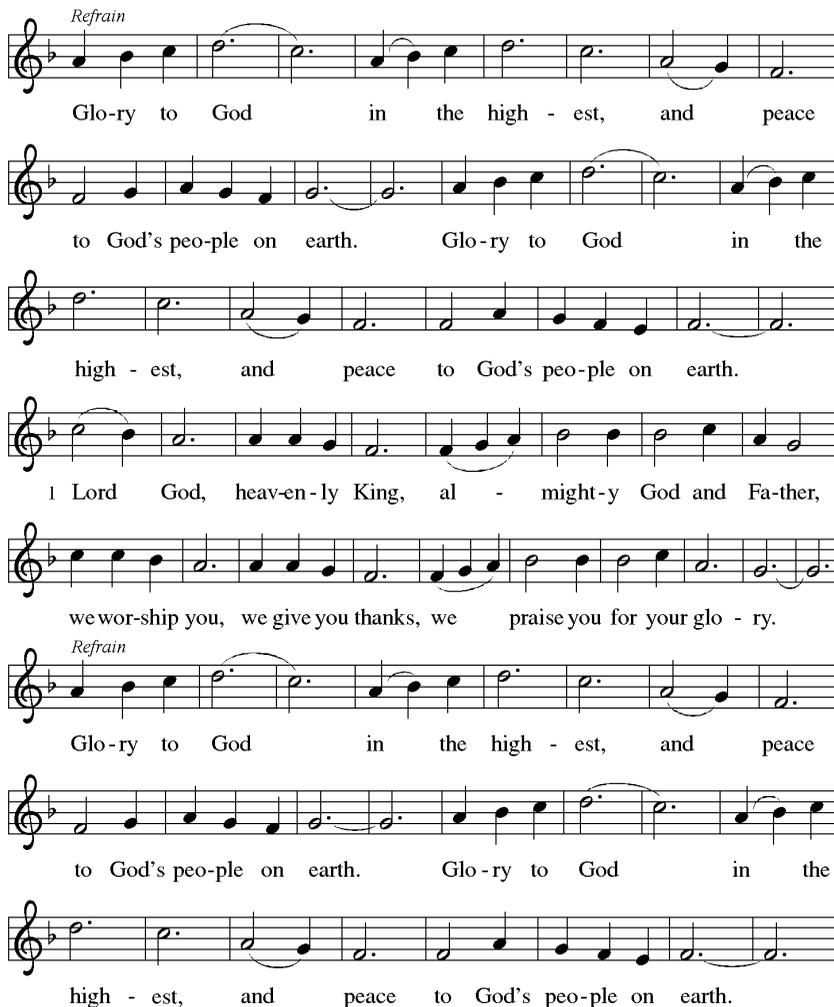
GREETING

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

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

~continued on next page~

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:
have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right
hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of miracles, sometimes we are slow to believe in your power, even when your miracles occur all around us each and every day. Open our eyes to see and our hearts to believe. **Amen.**

(We sit)

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

PSALM 27:1-4 All sing Refrain/Cantor sings Verses

~see next page~

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE

Jim Farrell

Refrain

Save your peo-ple, O Lord. Show us the way to come

home. We have been wan-der-ing far from your love. Save your

Verses

peo-ple, O Lord.

1. One thing I ask, O
2. For you will hide me in the
3. Lis - ten, O Lord, to the
4. Thus will I bless you all the

1. Lord, this I seek: to dwell for - ev - er in your
2. shel - ter of your wings and from the ar - rows of my
3. sound of my call, for I ac - knowl - edge my of -
4. days of my life. Lift - ing my hands, I call your

1. house, that I may gaze on your love - li - ness
2. foes. You set me high on a moun-tain-top,
3. fense. Wash me and I shall be pur - i - fied.
4. name: "O Lord, re - mem - ber your in - her - i - tance.

to Refrain

1. all the days of my life.
2. saved me from my dis - tress.
3. I shall be whit - er than snow.
4. Save your peo - ple, O Lord!"

(Remain seated)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ~ John 9:1-41

Kathy Thompson, Biblical Storyteller

We invite you to lay your bulletin aside and listen to the Biblical Storyteller.

If you wish to reference this text, it is in the pew Bible, page N.T. 105.

The Holy Gospel according to ... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

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

SERMON

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Silence for reflection follows.

(We stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ Christ, Be Our Light

~see next page~

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.

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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM *(11:00 only)*

HENRY VINCENT PETERS

PRESENTATION

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Parents present the candidates:

I present Henry Vincent Peters for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your *child* baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring your son to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that your son may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your son grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Henry in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support Henry and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water may be poured into the font before or during the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

Henry, I baptize you in the name of the Father,

The water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:

and of the Son,

The water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

After the baptism, the assembly may respond with a sung acclamation.

BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION ~ You Have Put On Christ we sing twice

~see next page~

1* 2 3

You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:

Sustain Henry with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Henry, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

The service continues with the prayers of intercession.

APOSTLES' CREED (8:30 only)

Let us confess our 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

After each petition:

. . . Merciful God, receive our prayer.

The Lay Assisting Minister concludes the prayers:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Have a prayer concern to share? Forms are available in the back cover of each hymnal.

PEACE

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

Maintaining physical distancing, and only making physical contact with members of your own household, the congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace (i.e., hand over heart, nod, wave, etc.), using these or similar words: “Peace be with you.”

(We sit)

MEAL

In the second half of our liturgy, we gather around the table, following Jesus’ invitation. Here in this meal we encounter the risen Lord who gives himself for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening the Body of Christ.

OFFERING

Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord’s service. They support the ministries of Christ’s church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners. If you prefer to give online, please visit www.muhenberglutheran.org/give.

Borning Cry (J. Ylvisaker; arr. S. M. Hibbard)

Gloria Dei Ringers

(We stand)

OFFERING SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, **sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

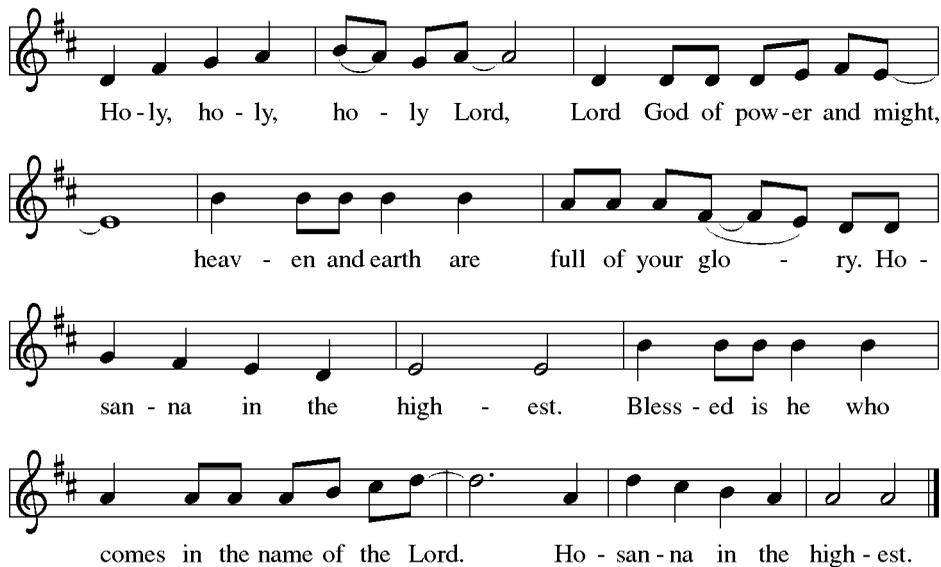
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

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

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

THE 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

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

(We sit)

COMMUNION

All are welcome to come to the Lord's Table! After the invitation to communion, the ushers will direct each row to come forward to receive the prepackaged communion kit. If you are unable to come forward, signal an usher or raise your hand, and an assisting minister will bring the elements to you.

As the minister says, "The body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you," you may take the elements and say: "Amen." Then return to your seat to remove your mask and consume the elements. If you need gluten-free and/or non-alcoholic juice communion elements, they are located on a small table at the front. Take one and present it to the pastor for blessing. Please dispose of your communion packaging in the trash can by the doors on your way out.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(We stand)

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, **for we have feasted on the abundance of your table. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN ~ This Little Light of Mine

The congregation turns & faces the cross reminding us that we follow Christ into the world & our daily lives.

~see next page~

This Little Light of Mine

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;

oh, oh,

Detailed description: This system contains the first three lines of lyrics and the first two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff. The word 'oh,' appears twice below the bottom staff, corresponding to specific notes.

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;

oh,

Detailed description: This system contains the next three lines of lyrics and the next two staves of music. The notation continues from the first system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff. The word 'oh,' appears once below the bottom staff.

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,

oh,

Detailed description: This system contains the next three lines of lyrics and the next two staves of music. The notation continues from the second system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff. The word 'oh,' appears once below the bottom staff.

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.

Detailed description: This system contains the final three lines of lyrics and the final two staves of music. The notation continues from the third system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff. The bottom staff features a long, sweeping melodic line that spans across the end of the system.

SENDING

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

FAREWELL TO THE ALLELUIAS

We are an Easter people. Alleluia! Alleluia!
And Alleluia is our song. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The author of Ecclesiastes writes: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

A time to be born and a time to die.

A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.

A time to break down and a time to build up.

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

A time to mourn and a time to dance.

A time to keep silence and a time to speak.

As a sign of our repentance, we now say Farewell to the Alleluia until our rejoicing at the resurrection of our Lord.

Let us pray. Lord God, our creator, as we bid farewell to this refrain of heaven's song, help us to turn ourselves to living a good Lent. Help us let go of things that stand between us and your love, and cultivate those things that lead us closer to you. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that our Easter Alleluias may burst out in joyful affirmation of Christ's resurrection. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

We have been renewed at the Wellspring of God's grace! Now, go in peace to *live out Christ's love!*

We go to be: Open ✠ Authentic ✠ Relational ✠ Serving
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE ~ Detroit (SACRED HARP; arr. W. Held, 1984)

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Alex Zuber

CRUCIFERS **8:30** — Bill Whitmire
11:00 — Sue Koch

LAY ASSISTING **8:30** — Wylie Walton
MINISTERS **11:00** — Cynthia Page

LECTORS **8:30** — Kathy Thompson, Biblical Storyteller
11:00 — Kathy Thompson, Biblical Storyteller

USHERS **8:30** — Bart Long, Karen Thomsen
11:00 — Melissa, Billy and Henry Perritt

MUSICIANS Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister
Gloria Dei Ringers; Kath Wissinger, Handbell Director
Cantors: Crystl Whitmire (8:30); David Barnes (11:00)

*Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and
in honor of Jack Burke by his family.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Permission to print/podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license # A-701538, CCLI license # 20104877, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License: SAS014720, and RingTrue Handbell Music.

REMINDERS AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY

- **Please place your communion packaging in the trash can as you exit the sanctuary.**
- **We encourage you to take *The Chimes* home with you.**

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP...

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: + All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins, but no one should feel compelled. Both our confession of sin and God's promise of mercy are rooted in our baptism. We come before God recalling our brokenness, but even more God's great grace.

GATHERING HYMN: We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship and this hymn sets the tone for the day.

KYRIE: The Kyrie is an ancient piece of service liturgy that may date back to the second century. Kyrie Eleison is Greek for "Lord have mercy" and is in reference to both New and Old Testament scriptures which use the same words and pattern.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: The Prayer of the Day collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

READINGS AND PSALM: Liturgy, from the Greek, means "the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators. The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts. The Psalms were the original Hymns in Holy Scripture, used by God's people for personal and corporate devotion. They continue to be prayed, sung and read by God's people all over the world as a rich and honest expression of faith. We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

HYMN OF THE DAY: This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

NICENE & APOSTLES' CREEDS: The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true. The use of the non-capitalized word "catholic" means simply worldwide or universal.

PRAYERS: We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at his/ her invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

PEACE: Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

OFFERING: Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

OFFERING SONG: This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: The Great Thanksgiving is an ancient part of the worship that proclaims our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal. The "Holy, Holy, Holy" echoes the heavenly chorus in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility. Some will make the sign of the cross at the announcement of God's presence: "Blessed is He..."

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Eucharist is the Greek word for thanks. These are the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture: 1Cor. 11:23-26, Matt. 26:26-29, Luke 22:15-20.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

COMMUNION: The "last supper" was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He invited them to share this meal in the future to remember him and he promised to be present in a mysterious, but very real sense. All who desire to participate are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

BLESSING: In this blessing we are reminded we bear God's name as we depart to live out our baptism, serving our neighbor and spreading the gospel. It reaffirms our mission and reminds us that if we are to be a Wellspring of Grace, we need to be renewed first through Water, Word, and Meal—the means of grace God has given to us.