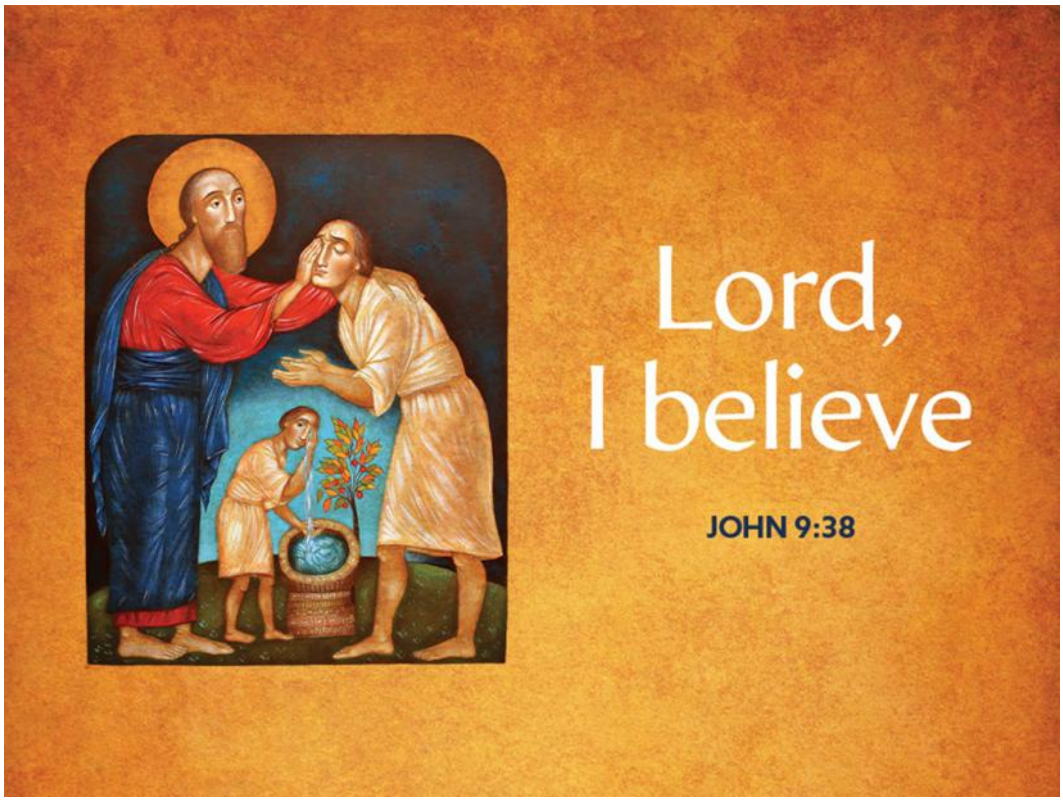
Living Saviour Lutheran Church
Charlotte, North Carolina



Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2026

Living Saviour Lutheran Church is a faith community striving to live and love as Jesus did, eagerly welcoming all and bringing healing, help, and hope to the world.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY:

Assisting Minister/Reader's Theater - **Aliah Church, Alex Hatcher, Bill Hatcher, Riley Skidmore, Amanda Thom**
Crucifer - **Riley Skidmore**
Acolyte - **Charlie Parham**

INSTRUMENTALIST TODAY:

Trumpet - **Gordon Hann**
Woodwinds - **Barbara Tobin**

EASTER LILY orders are due now! Order forms are on the entry table in the narthex or can be called/emailed in to the office on Monday, March 16. Payments can be made at a later date.

THIS WORSHIP FOLDER contains all elements of the worship service. It is designed to encourage your participation. Please read the words in bold print and join in the singing of all hymns. Italicized words are instructions.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the sanctuary and down the short hallway.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!
Parents, you are always welcome to bring your children to worship with you. If you are comfortable and prefer having them in supervised childcare, it is available and is under the very capable and loving supervision of Ms. Carla. The Childcare Room is down the steps as you enter the gathering area outside the sanctuary. Someone will be happy to direct you there.

- **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS** for readers and non-readers are available on the welcome table where the worship folders are located.
- **QUIET BAGS** for use by children during worship have been updated and arranged by age groups. They are located to the left as you enter the sanctuary. Please feel free to pick one up and replace it on the hooks when you leave.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES are on page 22.

NOISY OFFERING for March will go to Anchor of Hope Sober Living. They strive to be the pinnacle of sober living in the Charlotte area and surrounding communities. Their core belief is to offer a home anchored in faith and rooted in 12-Step recovery. These proven methods of combating the disease of addiction will offer residents a founded method to foster and develop their recovery.

2026 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

The March theme for Health and Wholeness is Dental Health.

Tip #3: The mouth is full of germs. These germs are usually harmless, but they can enter the stomach, lungs, or bloodstream from poor dental hygiene. This can cause endocarditis (infection of heart lining), premature birth, and has been linked to dementia. Brush your teeth twice daily and get dental checkups every six months.

1 Corinthians 6: 19-20 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit…Therefore honor God with your bodies.

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" arr. Linda McKechnie
(Nancy Mersereau, piano and Don Huff, organ)

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love—
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above!
Please stand as you are able.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.
Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

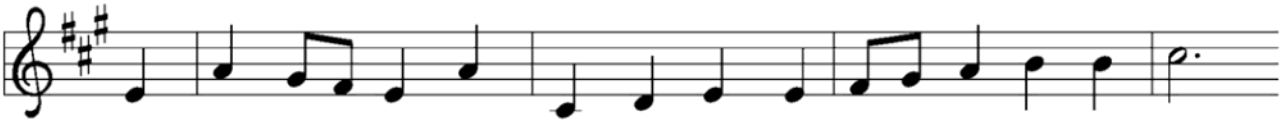
Please sit or kneel as you are able.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.
We have wandered from your resurrection life.
We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God.
Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

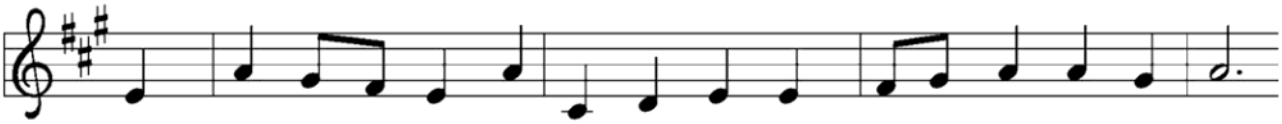
Receive good news. God turns to you in love.
"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.
Amen.

Please stand and turn to face the processional cross.
As the cross passes your row, please turn to the altar.

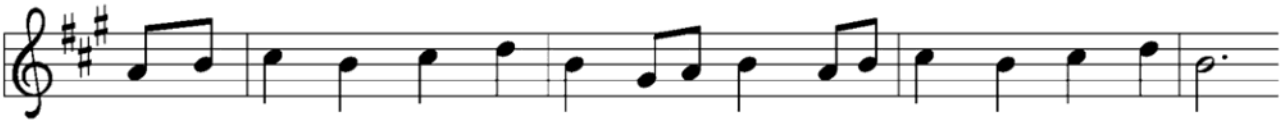
GATHERING HYMN "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate" ELW 722



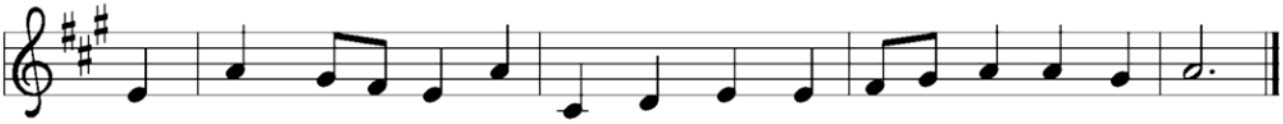
1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel-comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro-ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com-bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

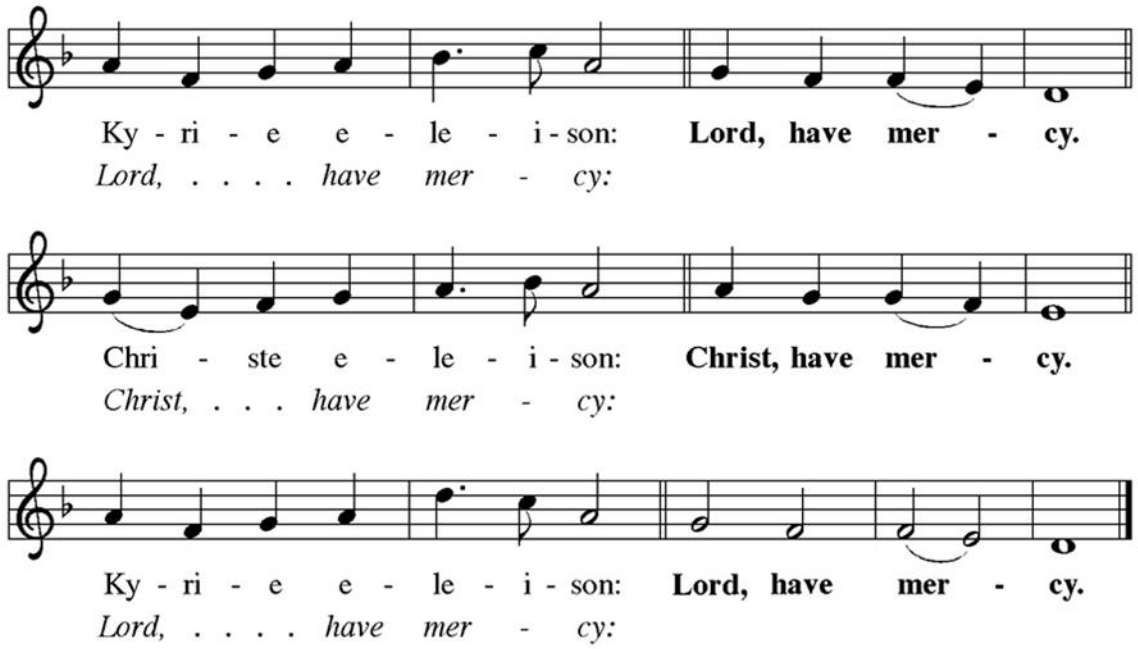
Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833
Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GREETING

The love of God poured into our hearts,
the saving grace of Jesus Christ,
and the abundance of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us.
By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-13

A reading from Samuel.

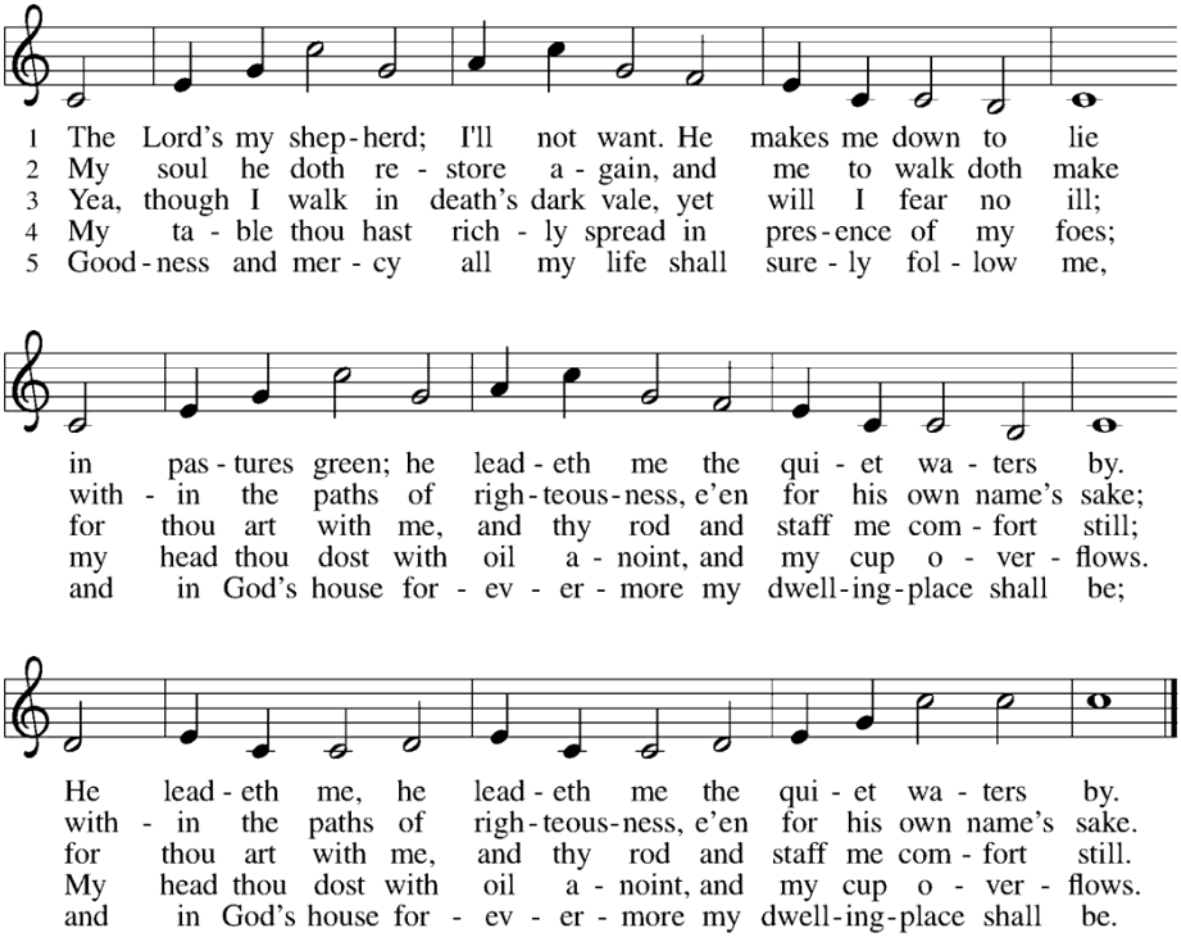
[1] The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have
rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out;
I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a
king among his sons."
[6] When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed
is now before the Lord." [7] But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his
appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him,
for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward
appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." [8] Then Jesse called Abinadab
and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen
this one." [9] Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has
the Lord chosen this one." [10] Jesse made seven of his sons pass before
Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these."
[11] Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There
remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said
to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes
here." [12] He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful
eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is
the one." [13] Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the
presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon
David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

"The Lord's My Shepherd" ELW 778

V1-All V2-Higher Voices V3-All V4-Lower Voices V5-All



Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

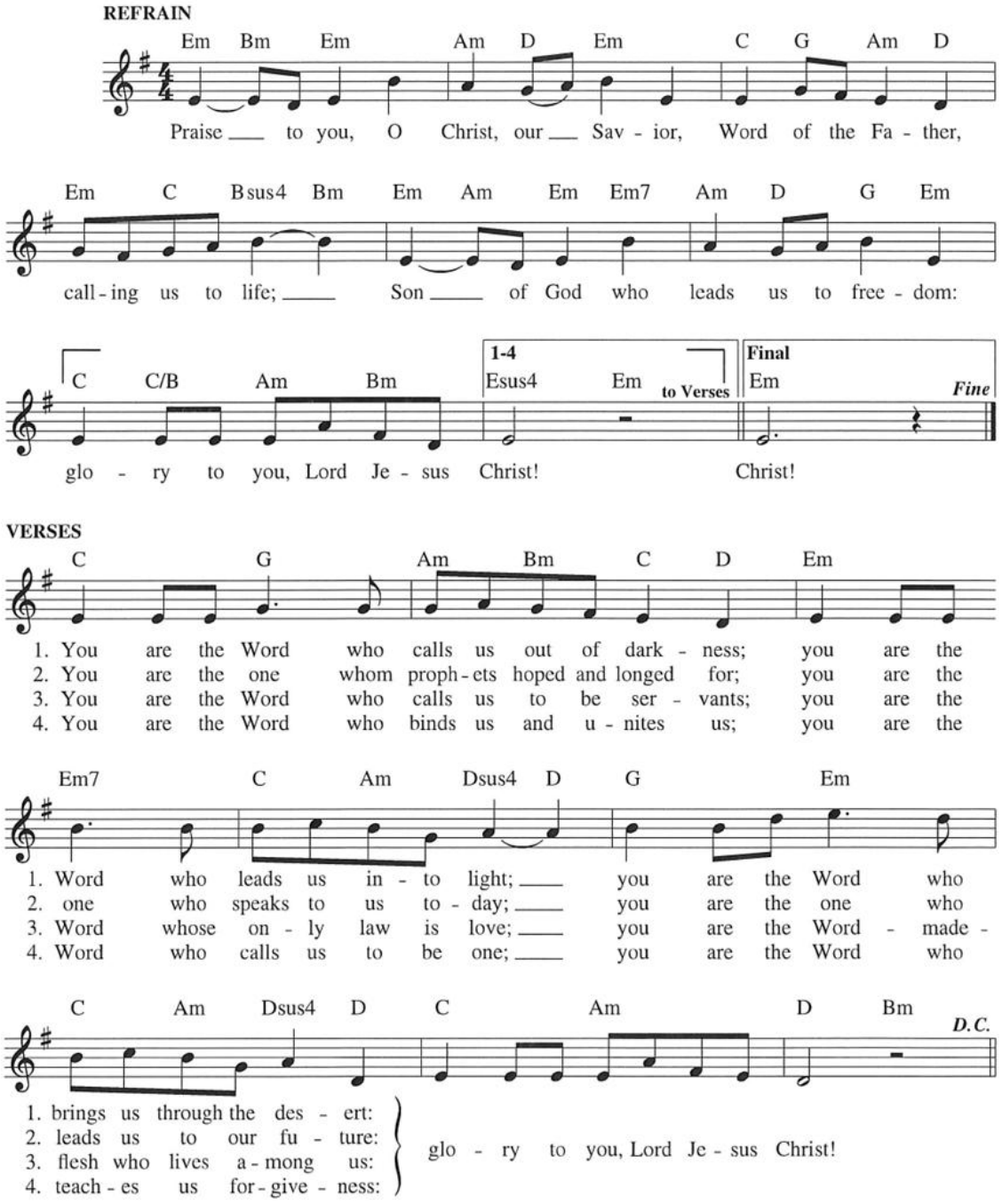
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/NOISY OFFERING

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior" W&P:118

Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain



Text and music: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957, © 1986, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[1] As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. [2] His disciples
asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born
blind?" [3] Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was
born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. [4] We must work
the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one
can work. [5] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
[6] When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the
saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, [7] saying to him, "Go, wash in
the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and
came back able to see. [8] The neighbors and those who had seen him before
as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?"
[9] Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone
like him." He kept saying, "I am he." [10] But they kept asking him, "Then
how were your eyes opened?" [11] He answered, "The man called Jesus made
mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then
I went and washed and received my sight." [12] They said to him, "Where is
he?" He said, "I do not know."
[13] They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.
[14] Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his
eyes. [15] Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his
sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now
I see." [16] Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he
does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a
sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. [17] So they said again to
the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened."
He said, "He is a prophet."
[18] The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his
sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight
[19] and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How
then does he now see?" [20] His parents answered, "We know that this is our
son and that he was born blind, [21] but we do not know how it is that now
he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He
will speak for himself." [22] His parents said this because they were afraid of
the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed
Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. [23] Therefore his
parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

>>>Cont'd>>>

[24] So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." [25] He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." [26] They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" [27] He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" [28] Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. [29] We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." [30] The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. [31] We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. [32] Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. [33] If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." [34] They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

[35] Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" [36] He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." [37] Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." [38] He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. [39] Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." [40] Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" [41] Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON **Pastor Sara Ilderton**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.
Than when we'd first begun.
Than when we'd first begun.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead followers of Jesus in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day especially those we name silently or aloud... Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
Amen.

PEACE

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

After exchanging the peace with those near you, please be seated.

WE SHARE THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The offering plate is passed. You may also give electronically using the QR code on the back cover.

MUSICAL OFFERING "Arise, My Soul, Arise" Dan Forrest
Text: Charles Wesley

Arise, my soul, arise; shake off thy guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears:
Before the throne my surety stands,
Before the throne my surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:
"Forgive him, oh, forgive," they cry,
"Forgive him, oh, forgive," they cry,
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled; His pard'ning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear:
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy and generous host,
you set a table where we feast as friends.
Prepare us to witness to your goodness
with every gift you have given us to share,
that all people may know your peace
through Jesus Christ, now and forever.
Amen.

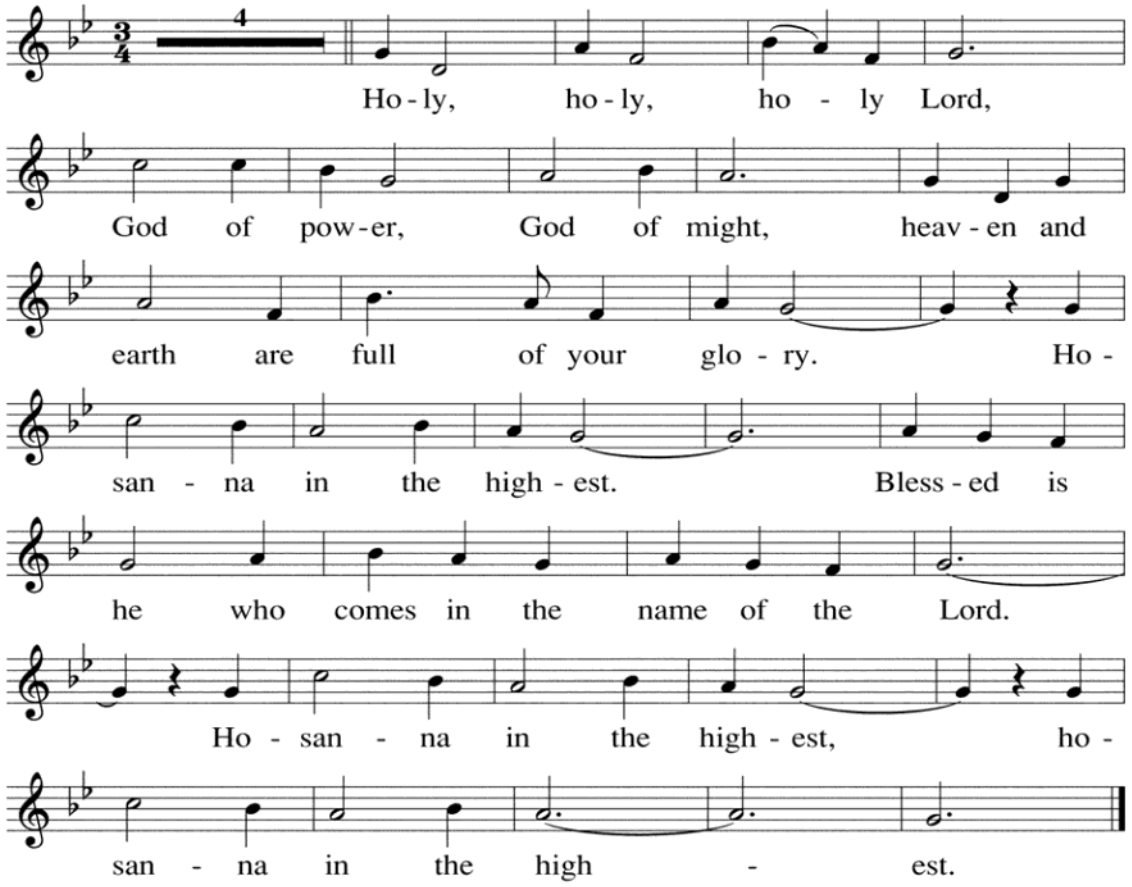
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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, our privilege 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.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.
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:



Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The celebrant continues with the Words of Institution.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
Apart from you, we are not worthy so much as to
gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord,
whose property is always to have mercy:
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, to come to your table
with the confidence that your cleansing love
and the gift of your own self makes us worthy
and nourishes us to be Christ's presence of love in the world
as he dwells in us and we in him. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated.

An usher will direct you forward for Communion.

Communion is served at the altar rail. You may kneel or stand.

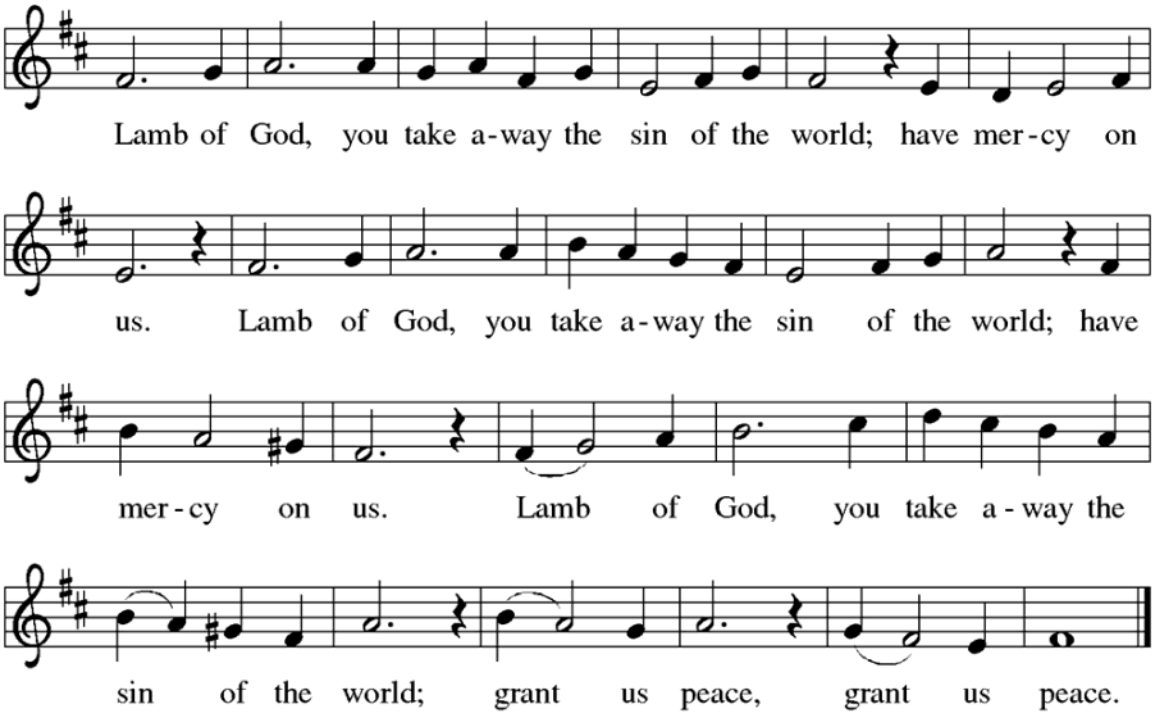
We use wheat wafers, white grape juice and wine. If you need a gluten free wafer, please make that known to the pastor.

For any who desire a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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

COMMUNION HYMN "Lamb of God" Setting 4



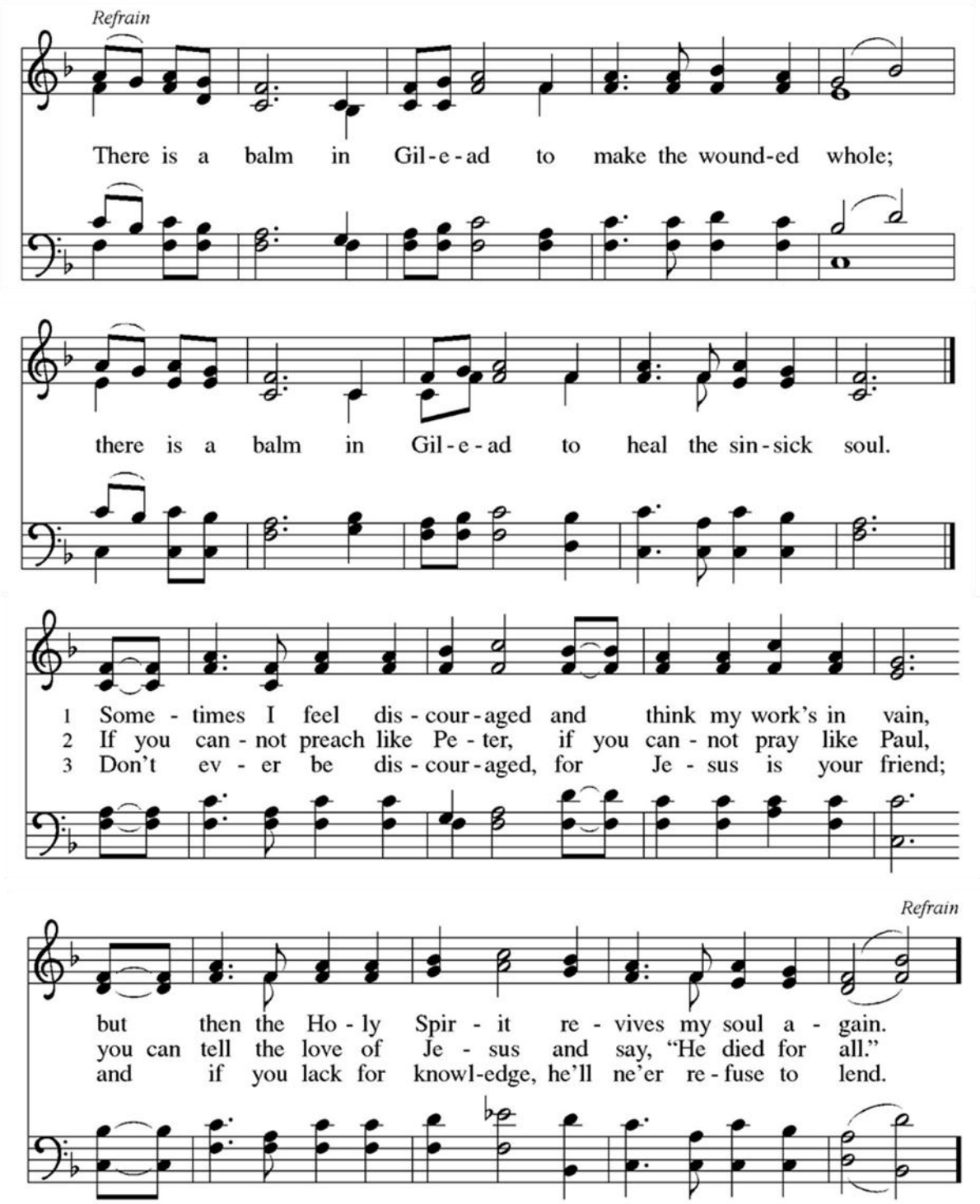
MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

"O Divine Redeemer" Gounod

(Glenda Kilminster, soloist)

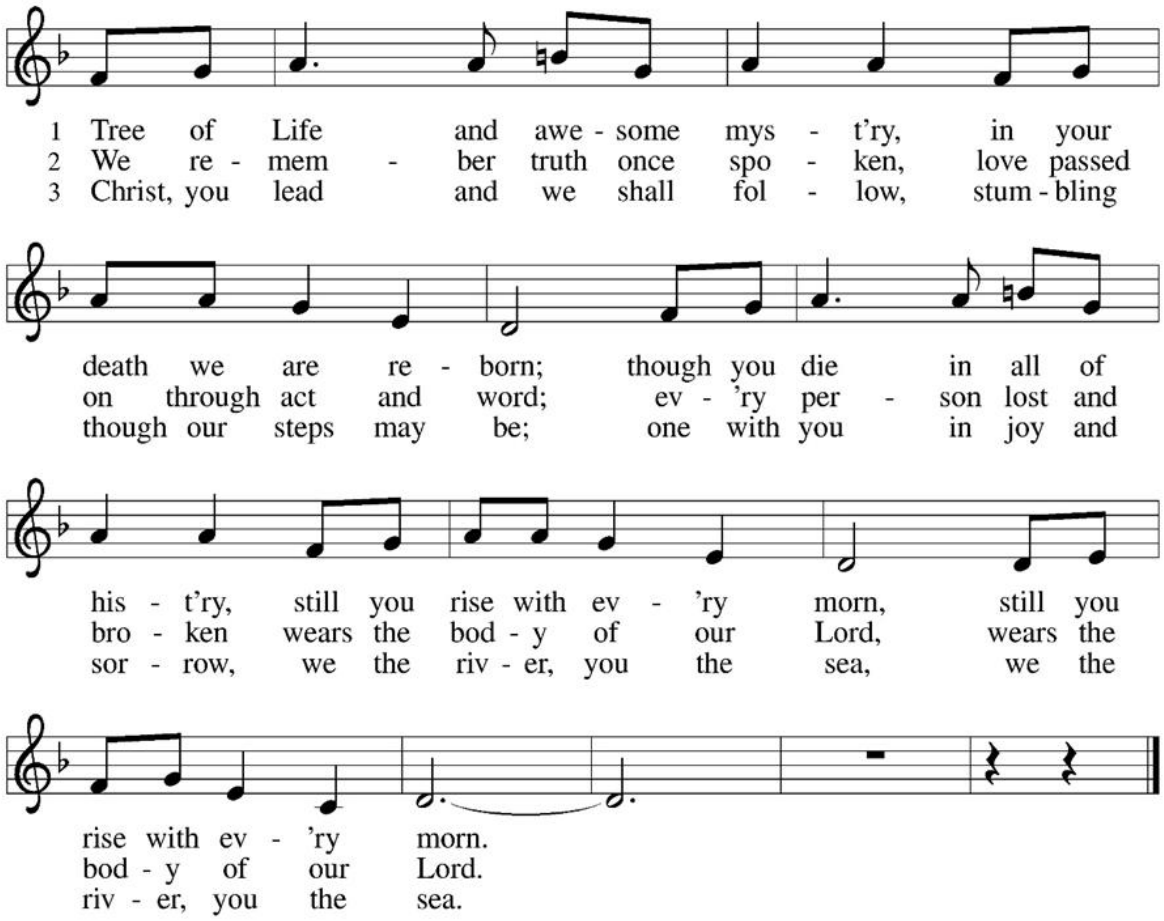
All are invited to sing.

"There is a Balm in Gilead" ELW 614



"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" ELW 334

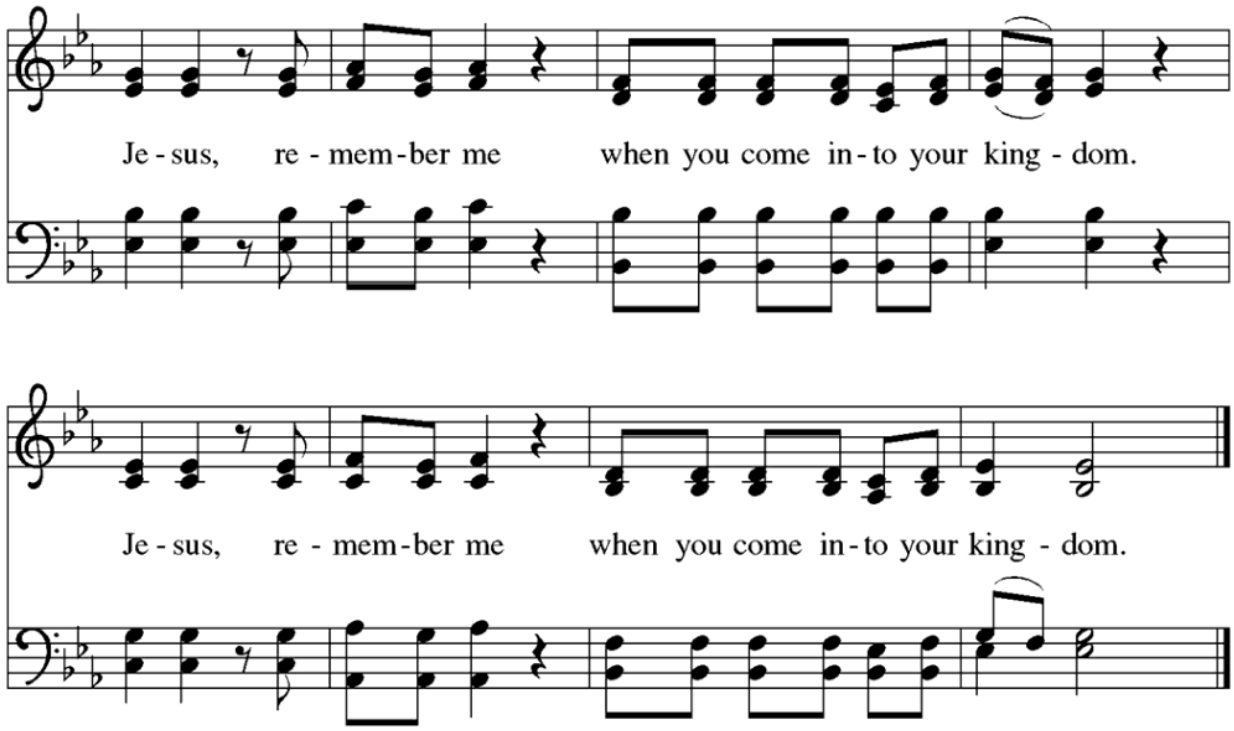
Verse 1, Lent 4, Verse 3



Lent 4:

Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright,
as your gospel shining bright.

"Jesus, Remember Me" ELW 616



Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

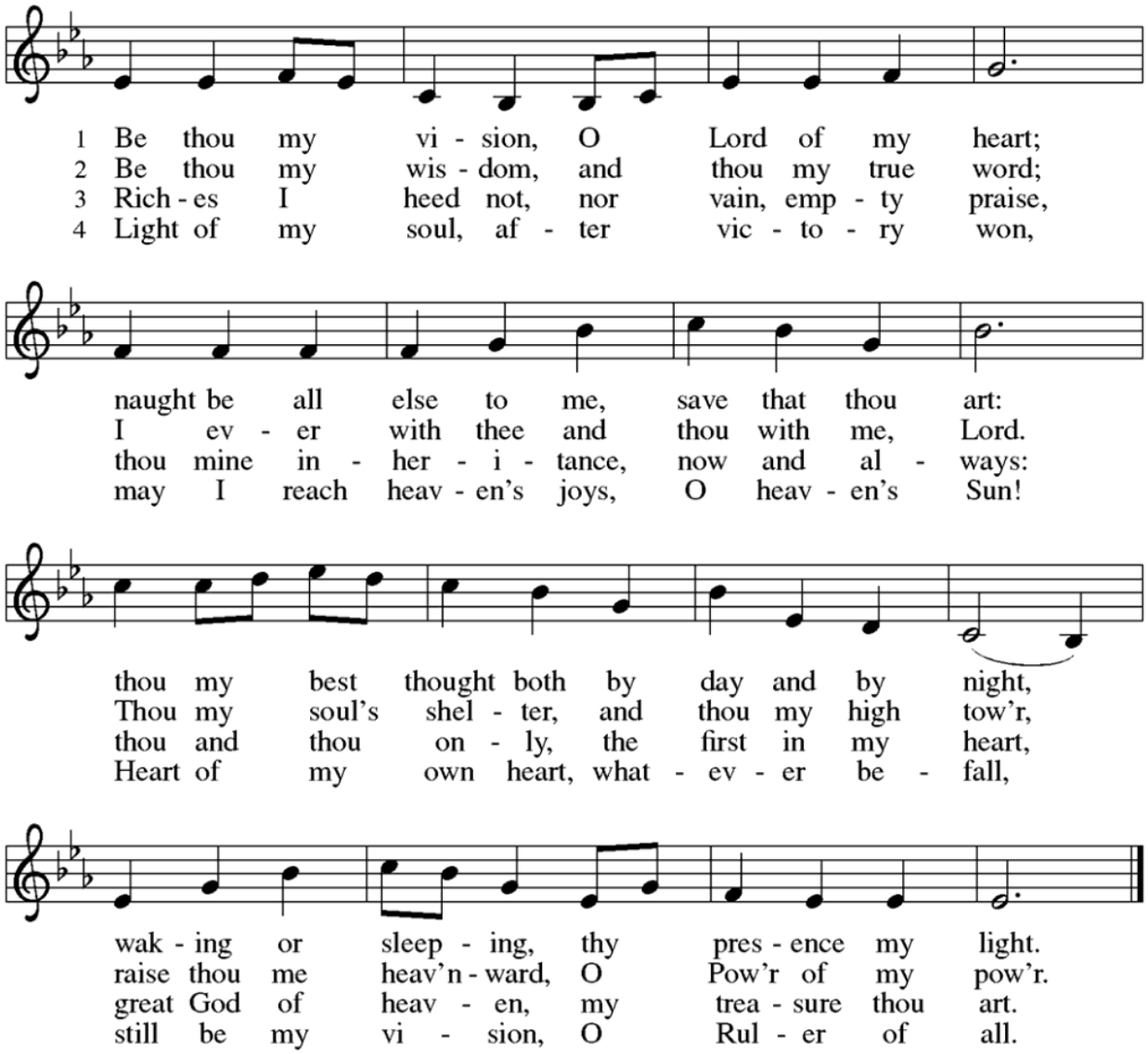
We thank you, living God,
for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Christ,
which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike.
As Christ has loved us in this feast,
so send us to love Christ in our neighbors.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
☩ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Be Thou My Vision" ELW 793



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live as Jesus did by welcoming all and bringing healing, help and hope to the world.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Praising Thee On High" Burkhardt

Credits/Acknowledgements

Intercessory Prayers from Sundays and Seasons by permission under Augsburg Liturgies License SAS103467

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23663.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All music and lyrics published in this worship service are printed by permission of the following licenses:
OneLicense #A-725570, LicenSing #612800, CCLI #11242717, Augsburg Fortress #23663.

"Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"
Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio
© 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 11242717

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

"Jesus, Remember Me"

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

"Be Thou My Vision"

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

Sunday: March 15
- 8:30 a.m. Alleluia Ringers
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday: March 16
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165

Tuesday: March 17
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265

Wednesday: March 18
- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup, Study & Sacrament
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday: March 19
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

Sunday: March 22
- 8:30 a.m. Alleluia Ringers
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

***We will host Midweek Soup, Study & Sacrament at 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday throughout Lent.** Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a time of conversation and communion. We will share a simple meal of soup, as we gather around tables, watch a short video, share thoughts reflecting on how what we watched speaks to living and loving like Jesus and then worship together. We hope you'll be there.

LIVING SAVIOUR
Lutheran Church

Living Saviour Lutheran Church
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28226
(704) 542-3626

The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor
Don Huff, Director of Music Ministry
Nancy Mersereau, Assistant Musician
Laura Schwab, Office Administrator
Susan Hall, Treasurer
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

QR for donating online:

scan to
join us online

Scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera, tap the link, and you'll be taken to LSLC's YouTube Channel

SCAN ME