

POWER
I N T H E
SPIRIT



Saturday, July 19, 2025
Morning Prayer
And
Sending Service with Commissioning

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

*Read responsively with the assembly responding with words printed in **bold**.*

THE BIBLICAL STORY TELLING OF ISAIAH

Chapter 53:10-12 The Biblical Story Tellers

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Come, Let Us Worship And Bow Down

Text and music: Dave Doherty

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across measures. The score includes measure numbers 1 through 15. The final measure (15) ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The lyrics are: 'Come let us wor - ship and bow down Let us kneel be - fore the Lord our God our ma - ker. Come let us wor - ship and bow down Let us kneel be - fore the Lord our God our ma - ker. For the Lord is our God and we are the peo - ple of God's pas - ture and the sheep of God's hand, just the sheep of God's hand.'

Come let us wor - ship and bow down Let us

kneel be - fore the Lord our God our ma - ker.

Come let us wor - ship and bow down Let us

kneel be - fore the Lord our God our ma - ker. For the Lord

is our God and

we are the peo - ple of God's pas - ture and the

sheep of God's hand, just the

sheep of God's hand.

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Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

PRAYERS

The assembly kneels or stands.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

The hymn is sung and then a brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer *The Lord Is My Song*

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with two verses. The first verse is: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. OR The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.' The second verse is: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.' The score ends with a double bar line.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Text: Psalm 102:1–2; Taizé Community, adapt.

Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn,
bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you--

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Other thanksgivings may be added.

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children,
and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray--

for those who govern nations of the world . . .

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

Other intercessions may be added.

The hymn is repeated.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

Water may be poured into the font as the leader gives thanks.

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water.

Following the asperging, worship concludes with this prayer:

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Worship leaders are Donna Gum
The Reverend Kelly Bayer Derrick
The Biblical Story Tellers
Judy Wilfong and Kathy Thompson,
Michael Benshish
Alli Beck*

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**SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025
POWER IN THE SPIRIT SENDING SERVICE
WITH COMMISSIONING OF VIRGINIA SYNOD LAY MINISTERS**



PRELUDE Prelude on "Aurelia"

(Power in the Spirit Handchime Choir)

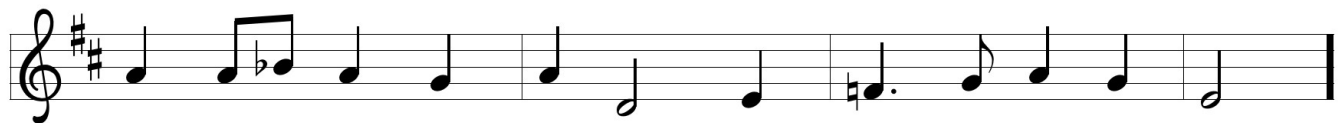
GATHERING HYMN

Please rise as you are able.

On Eagle's Wings



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!"



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



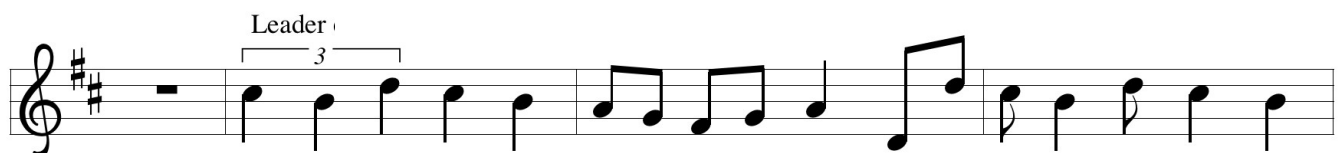
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



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

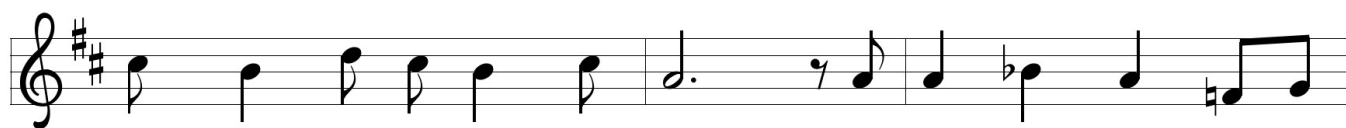
Refrain



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.

Final 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.



And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957

Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas

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INVOCATION

A Litany of Hope

Hope is a reliance on God's blessings and provisions—the expectation of future good. Let us offer our prayer of hope to God who is the source of life and the giver of every good gift.

Heal the hurts of mind, body, and heart.

Help us to provide hospitality to the hungry and homeless; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Open up our minds and hearts to overcome the prejudices against the outcast, that they may obtain mercy and justice. Help us not to shrink from our obligations and help us shape the object of our efforts in offering hope to those who are overwhelmed by obstacles of oppression; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prince of Peace, pilot your people, especially the poor in spirit and help them persevere through the poverty, pain, and perils in life. May they feel protection, see the promise of our pure love, and live as proud citizens of this country; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Everlasting God, empower the leaders of this great nation to enact laws of social justice for everyone.

Embrace your children and fill their empty hearts with your love, that they may set an example for others when enduring the walk of a Christian life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

In the waters of baptism your children are buried with Christ and raised by the power of the Spirit. On the last day, welcome us into the fulness of the resurrection and lead us to the banquet table of heaven where all hopefulness is fulfilled; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Kyrie eleison

Refrain



Last time



- 1 For peace in the world, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im -
- 3 For peace in our hearts, for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you



health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
 passionate re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

Refrain



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:8-10

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please rise as you are able.*

Thy Word

Words and Music by
Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith

CHORUS

$\text{♩} = 70$ F C/E F B \flat /D C F

Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

5 C/E F B \flat /D C F *Fine*

Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

VERSE

C Gm Dm Am B \flat C

1. When I feel a - fraid, and I think I've lost my way, still You're there right be -
2. I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is

12 B \flat /F F C Gm Dm Am B \flat C

side me. Noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me
wan - der - ing. Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; I will love You

16 C/D D Csus C *D.C. al Fine*

to the end. _____
to the end. _____

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 14th Chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord!

⁶Jesus said to [Thomas], "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

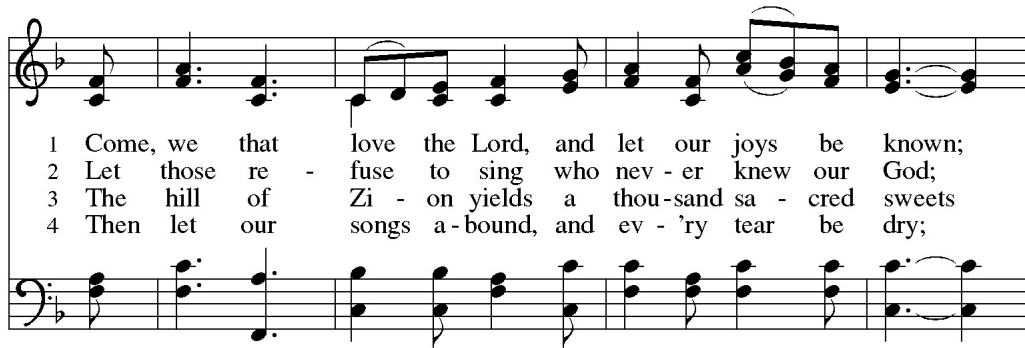
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.


SERMON

Come, We That Love the Lord

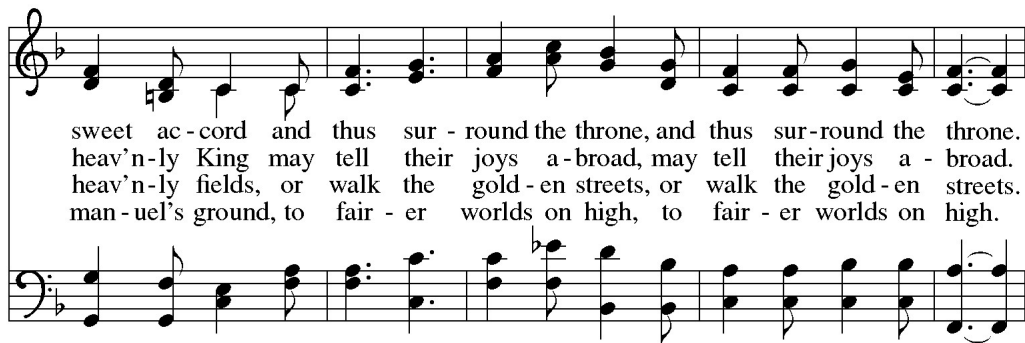
We're Marching to Zion



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -

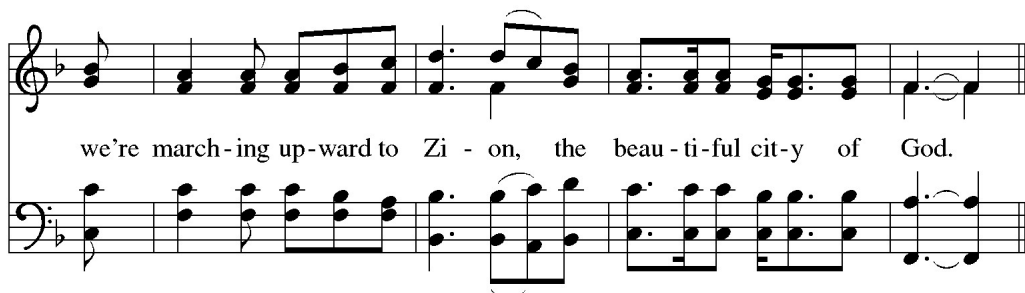


sweet ac-cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

COMMISSIONING OF VIRGINIA SYNOD LAY MINISTERS

Affirmation of Baptism – by the Assembly

The assembly stands. The presiding minister addresses the whole assembly.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism
as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own
by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called us to yourself,
enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished us in the community of faith.

Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

The leader addresses the assembly, all of whom are making affirmation of their baptism.

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,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and 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.**

Affirmation

The leader continues to address the assembly.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The leader addresses all who are present.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The assembly is seated.

Commissioning of Synod Lay Ministers

Presentation

A member of the Lay Ministry Academy Team addresses the assembly and invites Virginia Synod Lay Ministry candidates to come forward and stand before the bishop.

Members of the Lay Ministry Academy, as well as any Virginia Synod Lay Ministers, who are present are invited to come forward and stand to the side, in support of these Commissioned Lay Ministry candidates.

After prayerful consideration, we certify that these faithful and gifted children of God have been identified, instructed, formed, and equipped for service as Virginia Synod Commissioned Lay Ministers:

The leader speaks the NAMES of Lay Ministry candidates to be commissioned.

The names may also be spoken by Lay Ministry Academy leaders, if present.

Edith Blake

Kimberly Good

Address

The presiding minister continues:

All baptized Christians are called to share
in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world,
to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

These candidates for Virginia Synod Commissioned Lay Ministry
are our co-workers in the gospel,
gifted by God and authorized by the bishop of the Virginia Synod
to serve as Commissioned Lay Ministers
within the congregations and ministry sites to which they will be appointed.

Readers from the Lay Ministry Academy Team address the Lay Ministry candidates:

A reading from Philippians: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. (*Philippians 1.2-6 NRSV*)

A reading from Romans: Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. (*Romans 12.4-8 NIV*)

A reading from First Peter: Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love brings about the forgiveness of many sins. Open your homes to each other without complaining. And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God's diverse gifts. Whoever speaks should do so as those who speak God's word. Whoever serves should do so from the strength that God furnishes. Do this so that in everything God may be honored through Jesus Christ. To God be honor and power forever and always. Amen. (*1 Peter 4.8-11 CEB*)

Questions

You have been educated, formed, and approved
to serve as Commissioned Lay Ministers in the Virginia Synod.
Before almighty God, to whom you must give account,
and in the presence of this assembly, I ask you all:

Will you assume this ministry,
committing yourselves to this new trust and responsibility,
in the confidence that it comes from God?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures
and faithful in your use of the means of grace?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures,
and with the creeds and confessions of the Lutheran church?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you trust in God's care,
seek to grow in love for those you serve,
strive for excellence in your skills,
and adorn the gospel of God with a godly life?

All respond together:

I will and I ask God to help me.

Will you serve in partnership with the ministers of Word and Sacrament
and the ministers of Word and Service in the ELCA?

Will you encourage and support the ministers and the congregations
of the Virginia Synod in their ministries?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

The assembly responds:

Amen.

Blessing

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

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

The blessing is repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head or shoulders of the person and say:

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Edith/Kimberly the gift of your Holy Spirit;
confirm her faith,

guide her life,

empower her in her serving,

give her patience in suffering,

and bring her to everlasting life.

Amen.

Once each person has received a blessing, the presiding minister continues:

Let us pray:

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit

you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name.

Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

I commission you as Virginia Synod Lay Ministers

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Acclamation

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

HYMN

We All Are One in Mission

1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different;
our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others
with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united,
and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Tune: Aurelia (Public Domain)

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BLESSING OF SUPPLIES FOR ONE PANTRY MINISTRY AT ROANOKE COLLEGE

Lord, bless these school, toiletry and food supplies for the Roanoke College students. Let these items be symbols of the love and support we give to the young adults of God in this community throughout the year. Help us to look upon everyone in this community as one of our own, helping them to grow in their academic, behavioral, vocational, and developmental goals. We pray this in the name of the one who gives growth to all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY "The Road Home"

(Power in The Spirit Choir)

Worship continues with the Prayers of the People

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We will begin the Prayers of Intercession with the following hymn and then after the prayers end with the same hymn. Each petition ends with: O God of Hope. The response is: **Your mercy is great.**

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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THE 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,

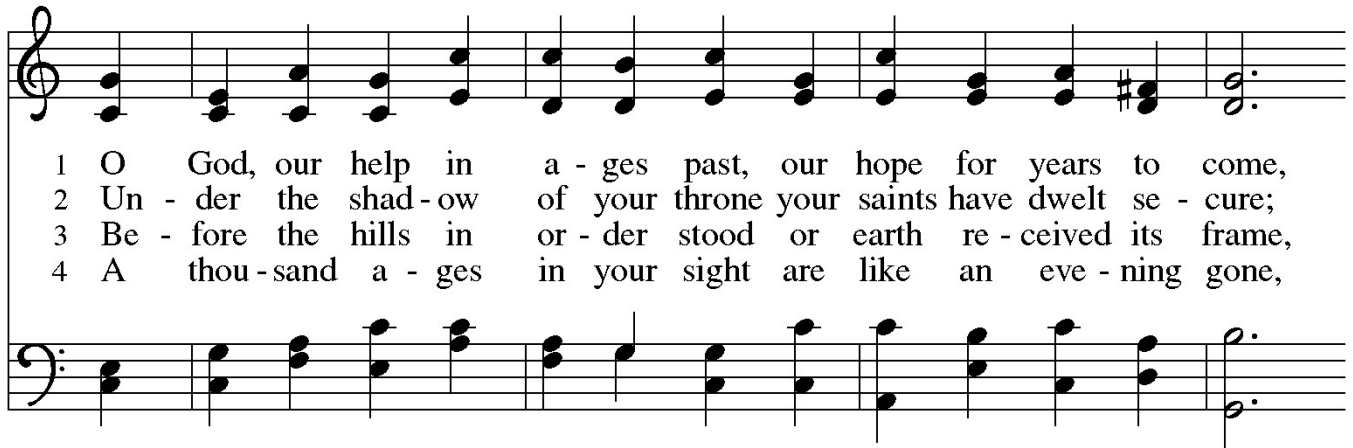
forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

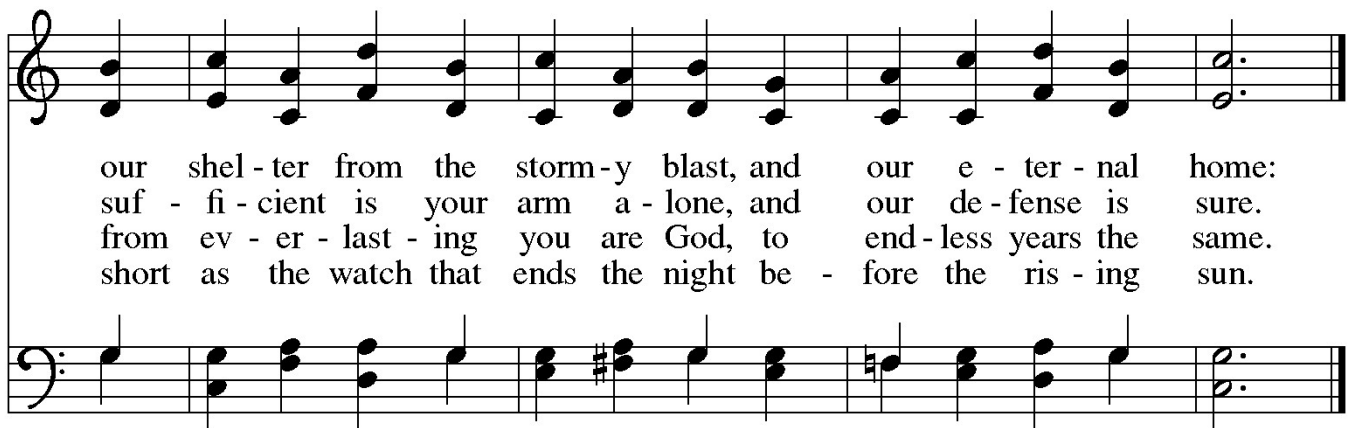
Now may the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in Hope, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "He Never Failed Me Yet"

(Power in Tte Spirit Choir)

Worship leaders are:

Preacher—Janet Gomez, Virginia Synod Commissioned Lay Minister

Presider of Commissioning—Bishop, The Reverend Doctor Phyllis Blair Milton, Virginia Synod

Installation assisted by—The Reverend Kelly Bayer Derrick, Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Synod

Members of the Lay Ministry Academy Team

Assisting Minister—Donna Gum

Music Director—Michael Benshish

The offering collected today will be given to:

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) brings God's hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

The **Virginia Synod Disaster Response Fund** is a designated fund created to provide support for disaster relief through the Virginia Synod, ELCA. It allows the people of the Virginia Synod to respond locally to disasters by making gifts that will provide grants and support to congregations and affiliated organizations undertaking disaster response.



Liturgy, On Eagle's Wings, Come, We That Love the Lord, We Are All In One Mission,, Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying, and, O God, Our Help in Ages Past

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Richard P. Unsworth, Fortress Press, Philadelphia, 1981, 2nd Edition, p. 46.

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*Thank you for joining us at the
2025 Summer Power In The Spirit!*

Travel home safely and please do not forget to fill out the evaluation form!