POWER IN THE SPIRIT



Thursday, July 16, 2026
Opening Worship

Virginia Lutherans
Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CALL TO WORSHIP "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God" Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend/ arr. Lloyd Larson

A Duet with Suzanne McGuire and Larry Giddens

RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF POWER IN THE SPIRIT

WELCOME and GREETING

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

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.

Please rise as you are able.

OPENING LITANY

Almighty God, today we give thanks for the good gift of the Power of Your Holy Spirit, our helper.
Come, Holy Spirit.

The Spirit of God present among us.
Come, Holy Spirit.

As on the day of Pentecost, when Your spirit rested on Your followers as tongues of fire,
Rest on us now, Oh God.

As they were filled with the spirit and began to speak and prophesy,
Fill us now, Oh God.

Just as Jesus promised, just as the Father has promised,
The Spirit of the Lord is upon us,

Empowering, equipping, and enlightening us to proclaim good news to the poor,
Release for prisoners

To exchange beauty for ashes,
Joy for mourning

A spirit of praise instead of despair.
Come, Holy Spirit.

We are your church, your body on earth, who trust in the Resurrected Christ,
And in the Holy Spirit of God, here with us now.

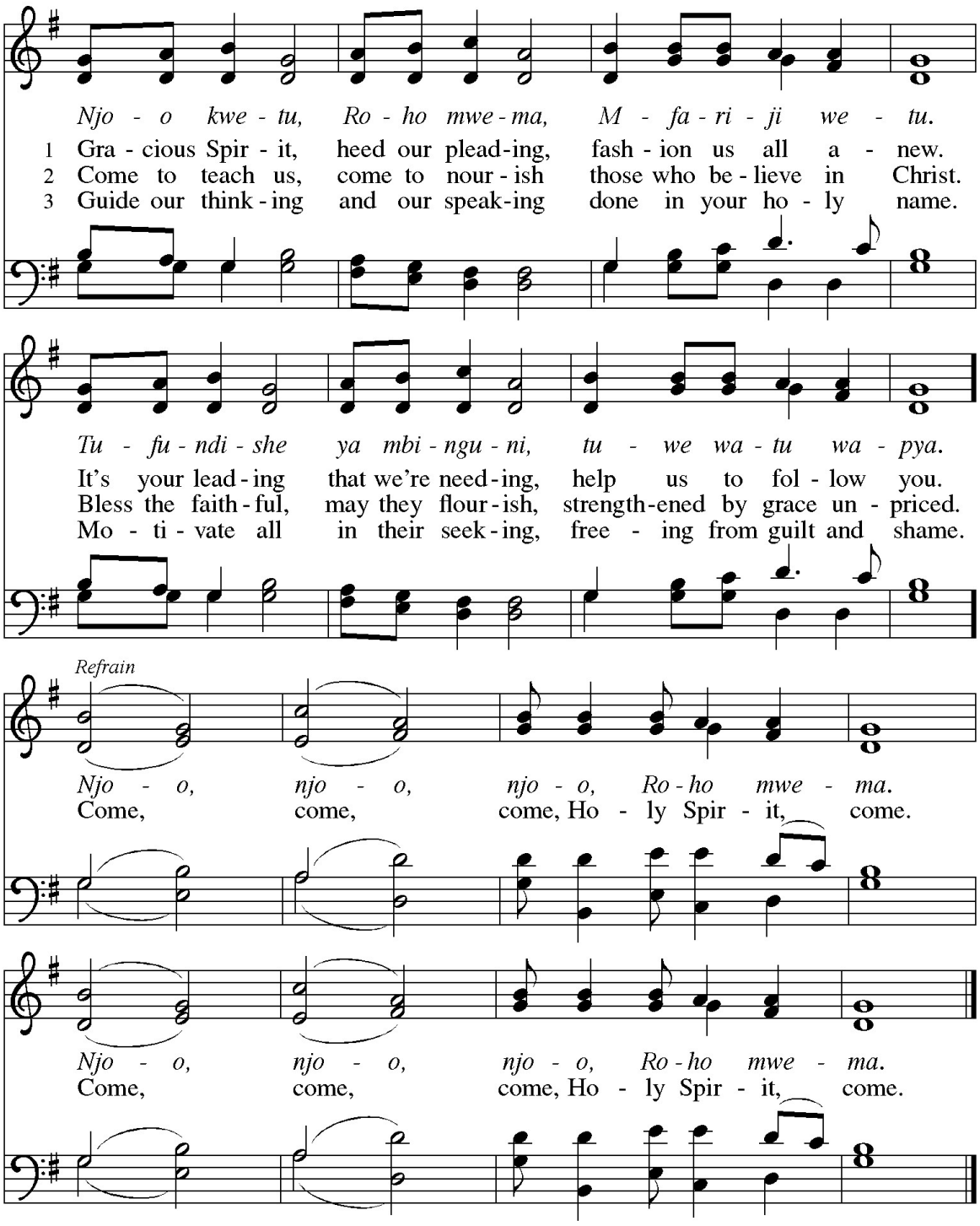
PRAYER OF THE DAY

By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema



4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
nor rootless liberty;
turn disquiet to contentment,
doubt into certainty.

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
unswayed by earth's allure.
Ever grant us zealous fitness,
which you alone assure.

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
Music: NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland, b. 1924
English and Swahili text and tune © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © Egil Hovland. Used by permission.

Please be seated.

THE BIBLICAL STORY TELLING OF EPHESIANS 1:15-23

After the telling, we respond:

Thanks be to God.



NEW TESTAMENT READING **Romans 8:12-17**

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13 for if you
live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will
live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slav-
ery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very
Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs: heirs of God
and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

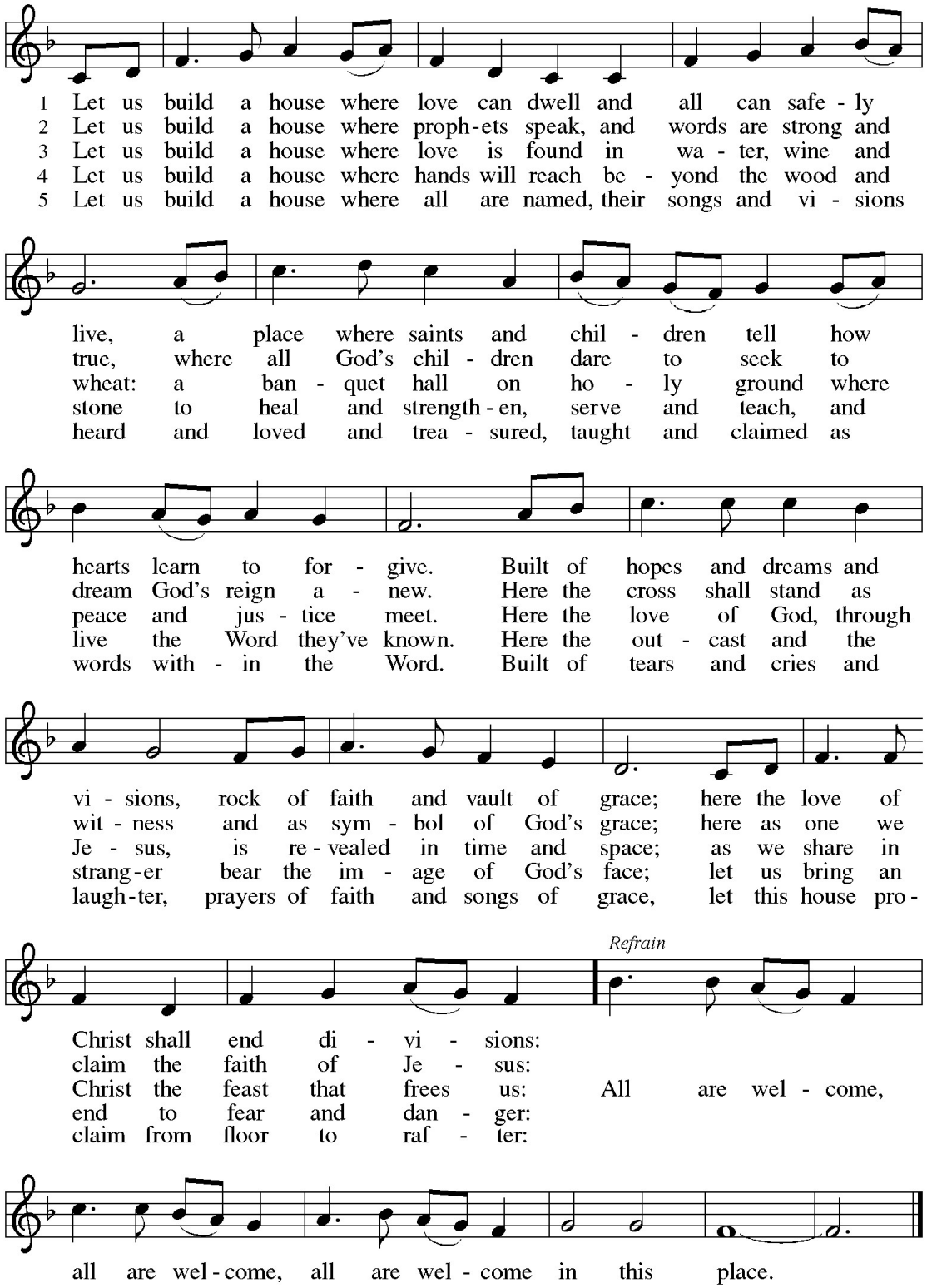
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Reverend Doctor Jean Bozeman

HYMN OF THE DAY

All Are Welcome



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

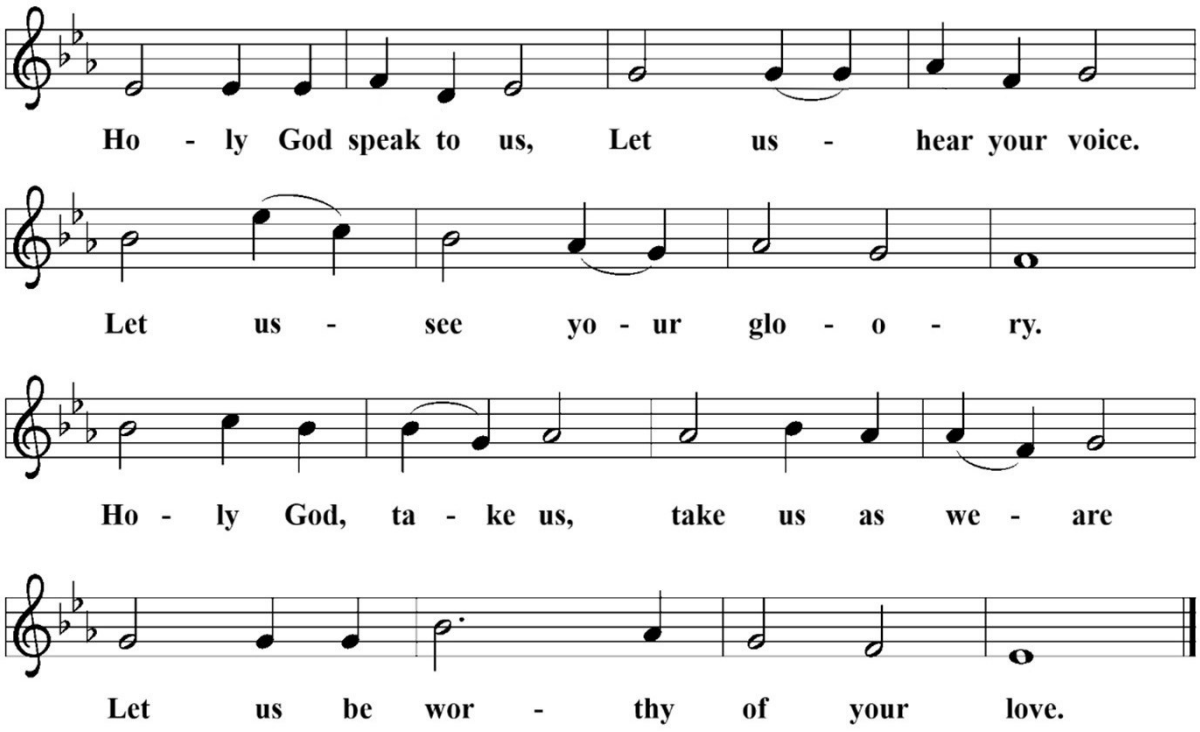
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are woven in with the hymn printed here. We will be cued for when to sing.

Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy.
The response is: **Hear our prayer.**

Prayer Song

(To the tune of Beautiful Savior)



Words: Edith Blake
Music: SCHONSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

BLESSING

The Spirit of God has been poured out upon believers. May the Spirit's flame burn brightly in your hearts.
Amen.

The wind of the Spirit blows where it wills. May the breath of the Spirit rouse you for life.
Amen.

Christ said to the disciples, "Receive the Holy Spirit." May you be enlightened and sanctified in his name.
Amen.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Worship leaders are Edith Blake

The Biblical Story Teller
Kathy Thompson

The Reverend Doctor Jean Bozeman

Michael Benshish

Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #45398.
Opening Litany ©Fran Pratt franpratt.com Used with permission.

"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God" (Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend/arr. Lloyd Larson Copyright 2016 Thankyou Music (PRS) (adm. Worldwide at CaptialCMGPublishing.com)

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading, Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema, Text: Wilson Niwagila; Tune: Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland
English and Swahili text and tune © Lutheran Theological Collage, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress, arr. © Egil Hovland. Printed from Sundays and Seasons.

""Prayer Song" Text: Edith Blake, Used with permission. Tune: Schonster Herr Jesu, Silesian folk tune 19th cent., Public Domain

Photograph credit: The Reverend Doctor Jean Bozeman of the cross created by Gene Gomez, Apostles Lutheran Church, Gloucester, VA

"All Are Welcome" from Sundays and Seasons.
Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #45398.