

1986 - 2026

40 *Years*

POWER

I N T H E

SPIRIT



Worship Booklet
July 16-18, 2026



Event Themes

Worship and Witness - 1986

Equipping for Ministry - 1987

(no event - 1988)

Equipping for Ministry-Our Journey Together - 1989

Visioning for the '90's - 1990

All Things Bright and Beautiful - 1991

For Everything a Season - 1992

I Love To Tell the Story - 1993

The Walk to Emmaus - 1994

A New Song for a New Day - 1995

Choose this Day . . . - 1996

Foretaste of the Feast - 1997

Our Hope for Years to Come—Men of Praise - 1998

Lift Every Voice - 1999

M2K: Ambassadors for Christ - 2000

Fanning the Flame - 2001

Filling the Cup - 2002

Spilling the Cup: Faith Active in Love - 2003

Stamped by Christ: Sent with a Message - 2004

Christ, the Kaleidoscope of Light Around the World - 2005



**POWER
IN THE
SPIRIT**



*"A New Song
for a New Day"*



*"For Everything
There Is
A Season"*



Choose this Day...



*Filling the Cup
PRAYER & SPIRITUALITY*



Fanning the Flame



*Spilling the Cup:
Faith Active in Love*



**POWER
IN THE
SPIRIT**



POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Spiritual Disciplines: Habits of the Heart - 2006

Nurturing Faith: Home, Church, School - 2007

God Gives! We Care! We Share! - 2008

Power Through Scripture: Fueling Our Faith - 2009

Shaped by the Master's Hands - 2010

We Love to Tell the Story - 2011

Welcoming the Stranger - 2012

Joy in the Journey - 2013

Changed by the Good News - 2014

Worship: Where Grace Happens - 2015

By God's Grace: This Is Most Certainly True - 2016

On Our Way Reforming - 2017

Walking in Newness of Life - 2018

Children of the Same Heavenly Father - 2019

Let Us Also Go With Jesus - 2020 (online COVID)

Advent in July - 2021 (online COVID)

Let Us Also Go With Jesus - 2022

Seeking and Finding - 2023

Perhaps this is the Moment for Which You Were Created - 2024

Wings of Hope - 2025

The Spirit Enlightens, Equips, Empowers - 2026



1986 - 2026
40 Years

POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Thursday, July 16, 2026
Opening Worship

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

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.
1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.

Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain

Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

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.

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 slavery 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.



HYMN OF THE DAY

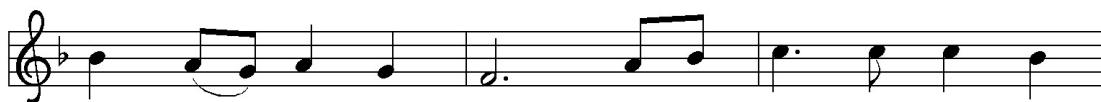
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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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)



Ho - ly God speak to us, Let us - hear your voice.

Let us - see yo - ur glo - o - ry.

Ho - ly God, ta - ke us, take us as we - are

Let us be wor - thy of your love.

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

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*Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading, Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema, Text: Wilson Niwagila; Tune: Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland
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““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

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POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Friday, July 17, 2026
Morning Prayer

CALL TO WORSHIP "In This Very Room"

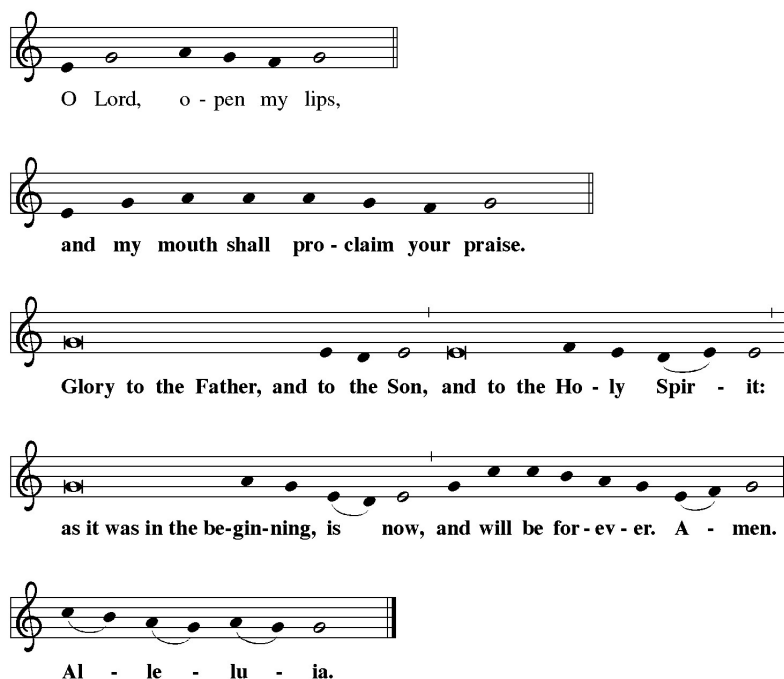
Ron and Carol Harris

Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

WELCOME

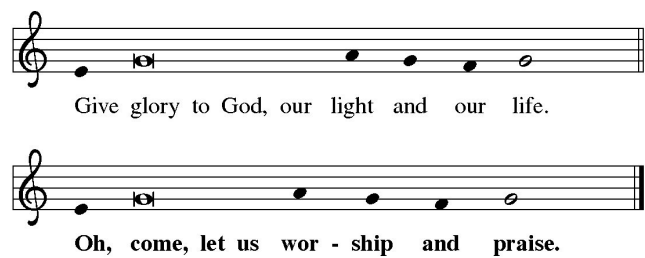
*Read and sung responsively with the assembly responding with words or music printed in **bold**.*

OPENING



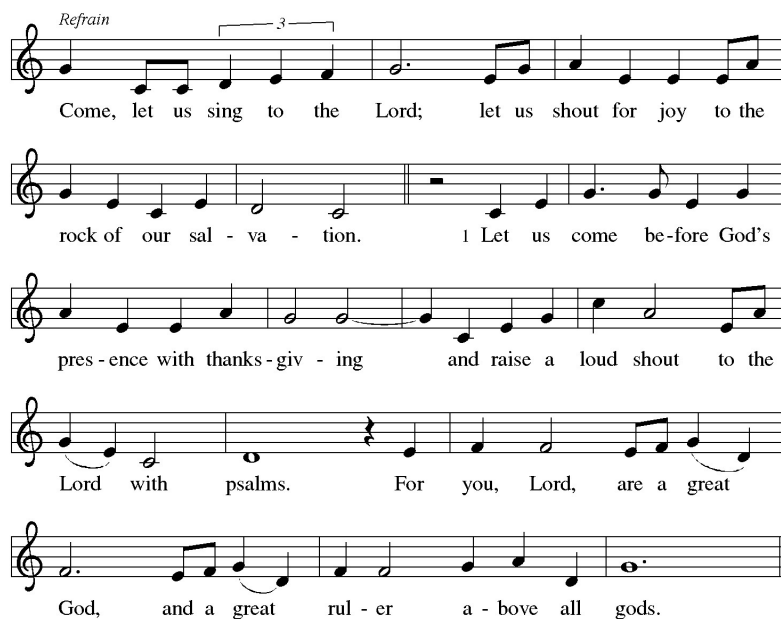
O Lord, o - pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.
Al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATORY



Give glory to God, our light and our life.
Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

The assembly sings and responds with the refrain as the leader sings the verses.



Refrain
Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
rock of our sal - va - tion. | Let us come be-fore God's
pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing and raise a loud shout to the
Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great
God, and a great rul - er a - bove all gods.

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
 rock of our sal - va - tion. 2 In your hand are the
 cav - erns of the earth; the heights of the hills are al - so
 yours. The sea is yours, for you made it; and your
 hands have mold - ed the dry land.

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
 rock of our sal - va - tion. 3 Come, let us wor - ship and bow
 down; let us kneel be - fore the Lord our mak - er. For the
 Lord is our God, and we are the peo - ple of God's
 pas - ture and the sheep of God's hand.

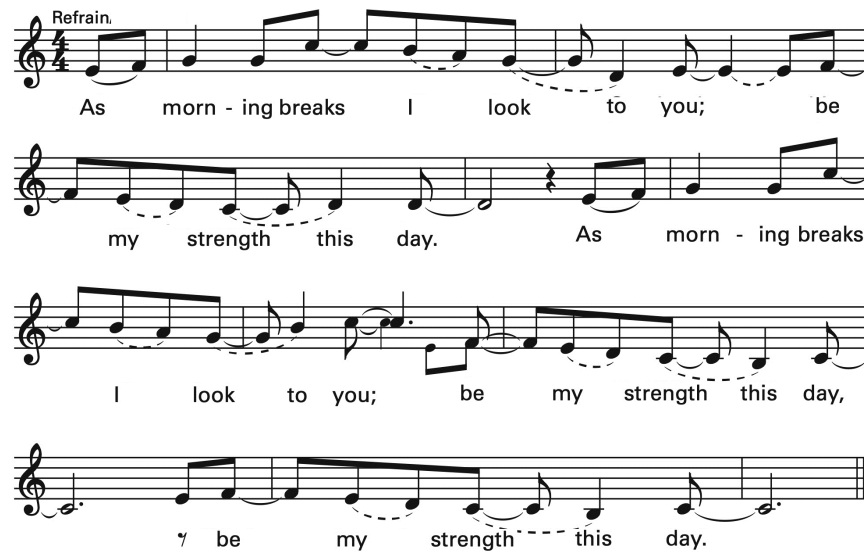
Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
 rock of our sal - va - tion.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

The cantor will sing the verses and the assembly will respond by singing the refrain.



1. O God, you are my God, and I will always praise you.
In the shadow of your wings I cling to you
and you hold me high. **Refrain.**
2. Through the day you walk with me; all the night your love surrounds me.
To the glory of your name I lift my hands,
I sing your praise. **Refrain.**
3. I will never be afraid, for I will not be abandoned.
Even when the road grows long and weary
your love will rescue me. **Refrain.**

THE BIBLICAL STORY TELLING OF ACTS 16:9-15

After the telling, we respond:

Thanks be to God.

Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors
in many and various ways by the prophets,
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

PRAYERS

The assembly kneels or stands.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

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.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us
through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil,
so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and
all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Restore in Us, O God”

- 1 Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.**
- 2 O Spirit, wake in us
the wonder of your pow'r;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
like springtime bud and flow'r.**
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy.**
- 4 Three-personed God, fulfill
the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may see you face to face.**

Tune: Festal Song SM William H. Walter, 1825-1893 Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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The Worship leaders are The Reverend Wesley Smith

The Reverend Heidi Moore

*The Biblical Story Teller
The Reverend Chris Carr*

Michael Benshish

The Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

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POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Friday, July 17, 2026
Worship with Holy Communion

POWER IN THE SPIRIT WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION



CALL TO WORSHIP “Sweet Hour Of Prayer”

Kevin McChesney

Power in The Spirit Handchime Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ’s name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
In the name of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God’s love.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness

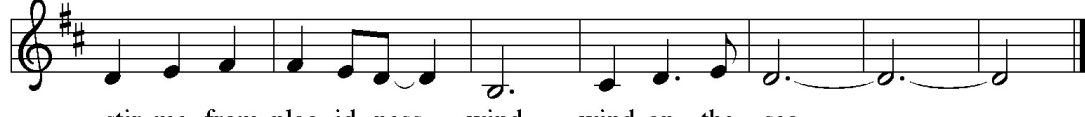
Refrain



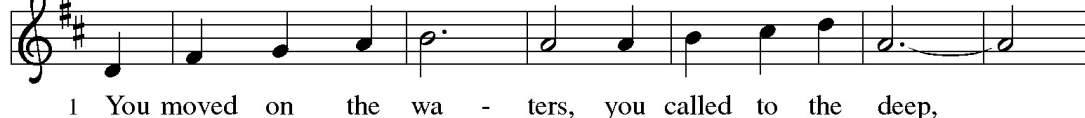
Spir - it, Spir - it of gen-tle-ness, blow through the wil-der-ness



call-ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest-less-ness,



stir me from plac-id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.



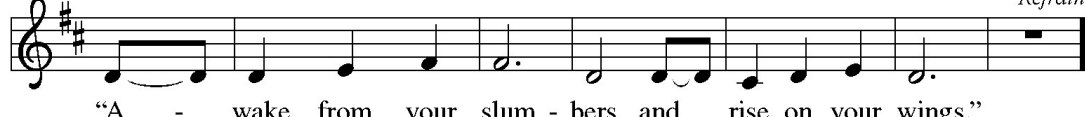
1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an-cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis-pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

KYRIE

The assembly sings the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.



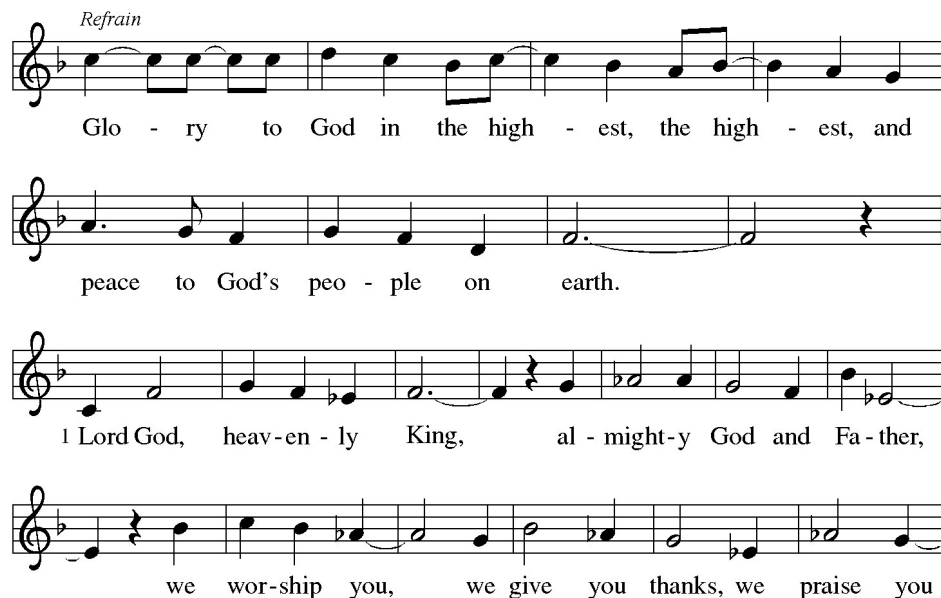
For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives
in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Refrain
 for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-

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

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, 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.

A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the power of your Holy Spirit. By your grace, empower, equip, and enlighten us so that we may reflect your love and your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

PSALM 104

Lord, Send Out Your Spirit

Ken Canedo

The cantor will sing the verses and the assembly will respond by singing the refrain.

Refrain:



Lord, send out your Spir-it and re - new the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your creatures. **Refrain.**
2. If you take away their breath, they perish and return to dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth. **Refrain.**
3. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him by my theme;
I will be glad in the Lord. **Refrain.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 16:13-15

¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

THE SERMON TEXT

Acts 1:8

⁸ [Jesus said:] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Holy Spirit, Enter In



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your
 2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,
 nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -
 doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength
 fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -
 ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you

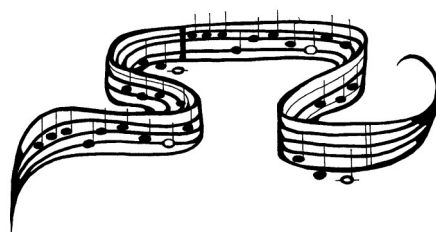


in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is
 ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some
 true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.
 to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.
 pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608



APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith together:

**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 OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. The response is: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*We share the peace of Christ with each other with a handshake, a hug, or in other appropriate ways
acknowledging there are still health concerns for some.*

OFFERINGS

*This year's worship offering will go to The Horizon Apprenticeship Program. You can use the QR code below
if you wish.*

Horizon Apprenticeship Program is an innovative, year-round initiative that empowers youth and young adults, ages 16-20, from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds to grow as leaders through hands-on ministry, mentorship, and community engagement. Through the program, they will:

- Develop practical leadership skills in a supportive, faith-based environment*
- Make a meaningful impact in your congregation, camp, or community*
- Connect with a network of peers and mentors from across the ELCA*
- Earn a stipend while growing in purpose and confidence*

Join in shaping the future of the church and the world.



OFFERTORY “Total Praise”

Richard Smallwood

Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us 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.

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through
our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the host of heaven,
we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

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

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

Amen.

*The service continues with singing
The Lord's Prayer on the following page*

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our — Fa ther who art in heav — ven, — Hal-low-ed

be — your name — Your king dom come,

your will be done — on — earth — as in hea - ven —

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, For - give us as we for -

give — Save us — from the time — of tri - al, — and de-

liv - er us from e - vil, For the king - dom, and the pow - er, — and the

glo - ry — are yours, Now — and for - e - ver,

A — men, A - men A - men.

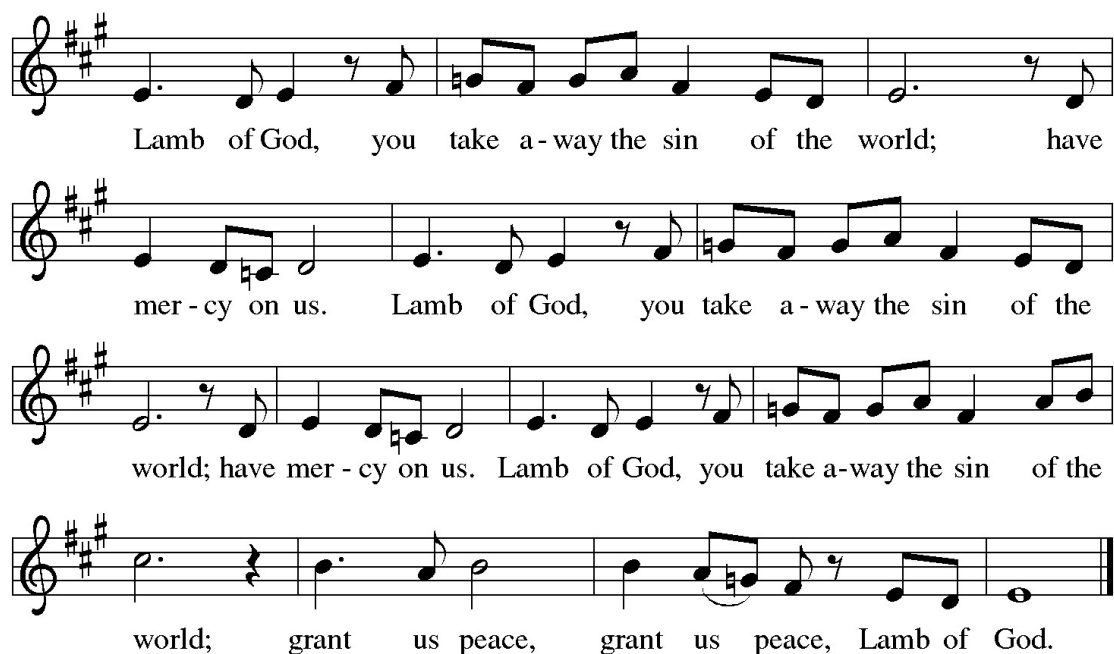
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Holy Communion will be distributed at three stations. The sides of the theater will commune first, then the center section. There you will take the bread (gluten-free) then move on to choose either the wine in the clear glasses, or grape juice in the purple glasses. Place the empty glass in the basket provided and return to your seat.

*For those **remaining in their places** with the pre-packaged communion sets, the presiding minister will instruct you as to when you may partake.*

The service continues with the Agnus Dei as we prepare for distribution.



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, Lamb of God.

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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I Am the Bread of Life

Leader or All

1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . .
 5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
 I . . . am the life. . . If you be -
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . live for -
 drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
 lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . though you
 Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to . . . the . . . world. . .

Refrain
 All

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

and I will raise you up on the last day."

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
 Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
 Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.
 Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958
 Text from *Songs of Praise* Enlarged Edition, © Oxford University Press 1931.
 Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

When all have returned to their places, the presiding minister continues with:

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION and BENEDICTION

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

May the Lord bless you and keep you may the Lord make his face to

8 shine up - on you And be gra - - - cious to you.

16 May the Lord bless you and keep you may the Lord make his face to

24 shine up - on you And be gra - - -

29 - cious to you. and un - til we meet a -

36 gain, and un - til we meet a - gain, may God hold

43 you in the palm of his hand. and un -

50 til we meet a - gain, and un - til we meet a - gain,

57 may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

The Reverend Doctor Dave Delaney, we of The Virginia Synod, ELCA, called you to this place to be the Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have guided us and the future of the church in times of joy and adversity. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you and your family have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you retire from this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.



Thanksgiving and Sending

The presiding minister leads the assembly in prayer.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ
you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock.
You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them,
and you call them to various avenues of service.

We give you thanks for the ministry of Dave among the people of God in this place.
You watch over our going out and our coming in:
bless this time of ending and beginning.
You surround your people in every time and place:
keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:
prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.
Help Dave, his family, and all of us
to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.
He has been a blessing to us;
now send him forth to a blessed peace and retirement;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises *Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona*

Refrain— sung twice each time

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

End

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “Concerto For Two Trumpets”

Dante Fowler, Trumpet and Diane Colin, Flute

Vivaldi

Worship leaders are: Presider—Bishop, The Reverend Doctor Phyllis Blair Milton, Virginia Synod
 Preacher—Presiding Bishop, The Reverend Yehiel Curry,
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 Assisting Minister—Deacon Lisa Geiger
 Communion Assistants—Donna Gum, John Staubus, The Reverend Janice Lowden,
 Barbara Atkinson, The Reverend Wesley Smith
 Music Conductor—Michael Benshish
 Musicians—Alli Beck, Soloist, Dante Fowler, Trumpet;
 The Reverend Heidi Moore, Flute; Suzanne McGuire, Soprano section leader;
 Larry Giddens, Baritone section leader; Diane Colin, Flute; Jillian Stierwalt, Clarinet
 Choir: The Power In The Spirit Conference Choir

Sung liturgical selections Benediction and Lord's Prayer, Composed by Michael Benshish and graciously reprinted by permission of the composer.

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*Spirit of Gentleness. Text and Tune: James K. Manley © 1978 James K. Manley
 O Holy Spirit, Enter In. Text: Michael Schirmer, tr. Catherine Winkworth, adapt.
 Tune: Philipp Nicolai, WIE SCHON LEUCHTET*

*What Feast of Love. Text: Delores Dufner, osb, © 1983 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications,
 Tune: English Ballad GREENSLEEVES*

*I Am the Bread of Life. Text and Tune: Suzanne Toolsan, RSM © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications
 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether. Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, Tune: Harold Friedell UNION SEMINARY, © Oxford
 University Press, 1957, 1985 H.W. Gray, adm, CPP/Belwin*

*I Love to Tell the Story. Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911, Tune: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936 HANKEY
 Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises Text and Music: South African arr Freedom Is Coming, HALELUYA!
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 Concerto For Two Trumpets by Vivaldi, Public Domain*

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POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Saturday, July 18, 2026
Morning Prayer

CALL TO WORSHIP “Down To The River To Pray/Lord, Listen To Your Children” Medema/McDonald
WELCOME

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

OPENING HYMN “Ten Thousand Reasons”

Jonas Myrin/Matt Redman

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,
O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your
end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good-ness, I will keep... on ... sing-ing— ten thou-sand
soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
rea - sons for my heart to find.
years and then for - ev - er - more!

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

THE BIBLICAL STORY TELLING OF ACTS

Chapter 10:1-33 The Biblical Story Tellers

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

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 voices, Treble and Bass, 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 notes. The first system of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second system corresponds to the second line. 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 Doctor Phyllis Blair Milton
The Biblical Story Teller
Judy Wilfong
Michael Benshish
The Reverend Heidi Moore
The Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

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POWER I N T H E SPIRIT



Saturday, July 18, 2026
Sending Service with
Commissioning

CALL TO WORSHIP “It Is Well With My Soul”

Bliss/Lanier

Duet with The Revered Heidi Moore (Flute) and Dante Fowler (Trumpet)

GATHERING HYMN

Please rise as you are able.

Come, All You People

Uyaimose

U - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;
2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

u - ya - i - mo - se Zvi - no.
come now and wor - ship the Lord.
come now and wor - ship the Lord.
come now and wor - ship the Lord.

Text: Alexander Gondo; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, alt.

Music: UYAIMOSE, Alexander Gondo

Text and music © 1986 World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland and the Asian Institute of Liturgy & Music.

APOSTOLIC 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.

A LITANY OF THE SPIRIT

The Spirit EMPOWERS the saints to move and work among all of God's people.
Weave us together to spread God's love through our deeds and actions.

The Spirit EQUIPS the saints to teach and preach God's holy word.
Broaden our understanding of God's word.

The Spirit ENLIGHTENS the saints to gain greater knowledge and understanding of your love.
Illumine our hearts with your Holy Spirit, setting our hearts on fire.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit move us to work, send us to preach, and fill us with your knowledge, so that we can believe and share the good news that you are healing this wounded world and raising us to the new life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

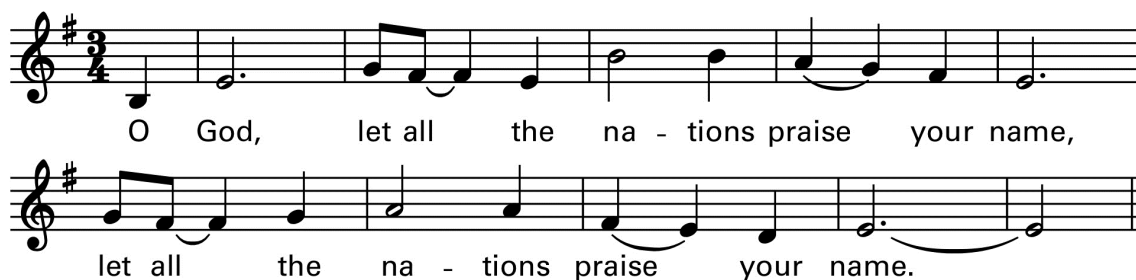
Amen.

PSALM 67

Oh God, Let All the Nations

Timothy R. Smith

The cantor will sing the verses and the assembly will respond by singing the refrain.



1. Lord, look with favor on us; show us your face.
Reveal to the faithful your way, Lord,
salvation for all the world. **Refrain.**
2. May the nations sing and be glad, for your word governs all the world.
Your justice will guide all nations, all people
on the earth. **Refrain.**
3. Lord, may we sing your praise; may we sing to you all of our days.
O God, we ask you to bless us,
as we honor your name. **Refrain.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 10:34-44

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Spirit Does What?*

Martin Paulson, SAM, Shiloh Evangelical Lutheran Church

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come to Us, Creative Spirit



1 Come to us, cre - a - tive Spir - it, in this ho - ly
2 Po - et, paint - er, mu - sic - mak - er, all your trea - sures
3 Word from God e - ter - nal spring - ing, fill our minds, we
4 In all plac - es and for - ev - er glo - ry be ex -



house; ev - 'ry hu - man tal - ent hal - low,
bring; crafts - man, ac - tor, grace - ful danc - er,
pray; and in all ar - tis - tic vi - sion
pressed to the Son, with God the Fa - ther



hid - den skills a - rouse, that with - in your earth - ly
make your of - fer - ing; join your hands in cel - e -
give in - teg - ri - ty; may the flame with - in us
and the Spir - it blest: in our wor - ship and our



tem - ple, wise and sim - ple may re - joice.
bra - tion: let cre - a - tion shout and sing!
burn - ing kin - dle yearn - ing day by day.
liv - ing keep us striv - ing for the best.

Text: David Mowbray, b. 1938

Music: CASTLEWOOD, Richard Proulx, b. 1937

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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.

**David Broyles
Karen Nguyen**

**William Luders
Diane Strait**

**Wendy Miller
Russell Strait**

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 address the Lay Ministry candidates:

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*)

Questions

As you begin this new chapter of ministry,
responding to God's grace and gifts in your life:
Will you continue your study of the holy scriptures
and be faithful in your use of the means of grace?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you serve following 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 serve in partnership with the Virginia Synod Office of the Bishop and 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 NAME the gift of your Holy Spirit;
confirm *her/his/their* faith,
guide *her/his/their* life,
empower *her/him/them* in *her/his/their* serving,
give *her/him/them* patience in suffering,
and bring *her/him/them* 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.

Jesus, you once called disciples, choosing twelve to follow you:
 Simon (also known as Peter), Andrew and Bartholomew,
 Philip, Thomas, James and Matthew, Simon, Thaddaeus, John, and James —
 Then there was the one called Judas. These were your disciples' names.

Women, too, were your disciples, sitting, learning, at your feet.
 Mary knew your word was precious, even more than food to eat.
 Martha trusted in your power when her brother Laz'rus died.
 Women shared your journey, Lord, and stayed when you were crucified.

Lord, so many heard and followed, like the woman at the well.
 Meeting you, the living water, she sought others she could tell.
 Like the boy with loaves and fishes, like Zacchaeus in the tree,
 Many gladly heard your message; many shared your ministry.

Jesus, still you call your people, "Come and follow me today!"
 Some, like Paul, feel sudden wonder; some are brought up in your way.
 Lord, no matter how we meet you, by your Spirit, make us new.
 May we know your living presence; may we daily follow you.

BLESSING OF *PASTA WITH A PURPOSE* FOR ROANOKE COLLEGE

Lord, bless these gifts of sauces, pasta, and seasonings for Roanoke College students. Let these items be symbols of 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, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY “In Christ Alone”

Townsend/Getty/arr. Angerman

Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

This year's worship offering will go to The Horizon Apprenticeship Program. You can use the QR code below if you wish.

Horizon Apprenticeship Program is an innovative, year-round initiative that empowers youth and young adults, ages 16-20, from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds to grow as leaders through hands-on ministry, mentorship, and community engagement. Through the program, they will:

- *Develop practical leadership skills in a supportive, faith-based environment*
- *Make a meaningful impact in your congregation, camp, or community*
- *Connect with a network of peers and mentors from across the ELCA*
- *Earn a stipend while growing in purpose and confidence*

Join in shaping the future of the church and the world.

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: Spirit of God. 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 notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady rhythm.

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

May the Spirit of God EMPOWER, EQUIP, and ENLIGHTEN all of God's children, fill us with hope, joy, and peace as we go forth from this event filled with *Power in The Spirit*. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,
the peo-ple of our God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—
The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,
the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing
to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE "He Never Failed Me Yet"

Dr. Robert Ray

Alli Beck, Soloist, and the Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

Worship leaders are:

Preacher—Martin Paulson, Synodically Authorized Minister, Shiloh, Christiansburg, VA

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

Installation assisted by—The Reverend Colleen Hetrick, Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Synod

Members of the Lay Ministry Academy Team

Assisting Minister—Donna Gum

Music Director—Michael Benshish

Musicians—Alli Beck, Soloist; The Reverend Heidi Moore, Flute; Diane Colin, Flute; Dante Fowler, Trumpet; Suzanne McGuire, Soprano/Alto Section Leader; Larry Giddens, Tenor/Bass Section Leader; the Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

*Liturgy, Come, All You People, We Are All In One Mission,, Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying, and, Come to Us, Creative Spirit
From Sundays and Seasons.com.*

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*Thank you for joining us at the
2026 Summer Power In The Spirit!*

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