

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



NEHEMIAH 8:1-10 and LUKE 13:10-17

"Set Free"

**ANTE COMMUNION
11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 24, 2025**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses - * Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

PRELUDE

"Cantilene"

Gabriel Pierné

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. You shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:28-31

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47

AM: Kyrie eleison

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: Christe eleison

C: Christ, have mercy.

AM: Kyrie eleison

C: Lord, have mercy.

***GLORY TO GOD**

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

Refrain

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Verse 1

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Verse 2

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Refrain

Verse 3

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Refrain

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

C: O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

NEHEMIAH 8:1-10

¹ all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with

understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁴ Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose, and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also the Levites Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ **Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”**

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.

*Creation : Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges : Kings and Prophets : Exile :
Restoration : 2nd Temple : **JESUS** : +Apostles : Last Day : New Creation*

PSALM 103:1-8



The LORD crowns you with mer - cy and stead - fast love.

Psalm 103:4

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 and forget not all God's benefits--

who forgives all your sins
 and heals all your diseases;

who redeems your life from the grave
 and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

Refrain

who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.

You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 12:18-29

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷ This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

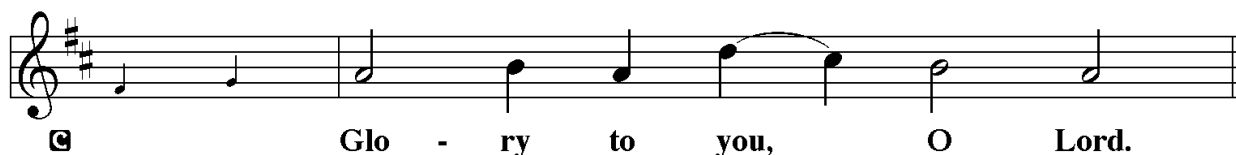
Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

LUKE 13:10-17

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

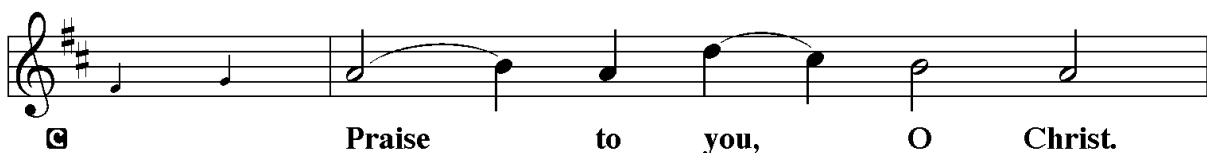
Response after the announcement:



¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up

straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“Set Free”

Restoration of Israel Under Ezra and Nehemiah 18 Years

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: Am I self- righteous like the religious authorities here? Do I insist on putting God in my box and getting trapped in rules and more rules?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: Jesus sets us free in the delight of His love, His right teaching on Sabbath, and the fulfillment He promises for all who trust in Him.

So What? Keep the Sabbath. Take more naps and celebrate the gift of life remembering you are loved and set free in Christ.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“You Are Mine”

ELW #581

*THE APOSTLES’ CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Philippians 4:7

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

Offered by Crown Hoffman

"Balm in Gilead"

Arr. Lani Smith

***OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalms 51:10-1

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

AM: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL HYMN *"Oh' for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

ELW #886

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Scherzando"

Robert J Powell



OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Jerry and Larry by Shirley Carpenter



Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibschi
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Chris Lowe
Acolyte.....	Cameron Bell
Lector.....	Amy Brown
Crucifer.....	Will Clark
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Perry Linkous
Council Members of the Month.....	Matt Hoffman

Upcoming EVENTS



GENERAL INFORMATION: If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



FELLOWSHIP TIME: All are welcome for fellowship time on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am in the foyer of the education building before Sunday School/Bible Study and on Wednesday nights after the 7:00 Service. Decaffeinated coffee will be provided. Please bring a coffee mug if you want to keep it at the church.

BRIDAL SHOWER: All women are invited to join us for a Bridal Shower in honor of Meredith Andrews, daughter of Kelly and Rob Andrews. The shower will be on **Sunday, September 21**, immediately following church in the Family Life Center. Meredith is registered at Target, Pottery Barn, West Elm and William Sonoma.

THE CHOSEN: Join us for the Evening Suffrages on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm, followed by an episode of the Chosen with a discussion and snacks to follow in the Memorial Chapel.

LOVE OFFERING FOR AUGUST: Our love offering for **August** will be for Crisis Assistance Ministry. It is vital to our community of neighbors who suffer under the burden of poverty and for those in financial crisis that we continue to support this ministry. Just this year, CAM has received 170 applications for assistance. Please prayerfully consider your donation and help CAM to meet the essential life needs of food, rent/mortgage, utilities, and prescription medicines of people in need. Please continue to place food donations in the blue box in our Sunday School wing and in the basket in the narthex of the sanctuary. Please check the expiration dates of all donated food items. Last year, our generous church family donated 188 bags of food. The Social Ministry Committee will continue to deliver to CAM as donations are given.



****NEW ALTAR FLOWER PRICING****



We have been blessed with our lovely flowers each week from Gaston Floral. After many years they have had to raise our pricing from \$55.00 to **\$58.50**. Please pay the increased amount on your next Altar Flower payment.

Weekly **CALENDAR**



Sunday, August 24	8:30 am	Fellowship with coffee
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	4:00-6:00 pm	Life In Christ (Fellowship Hall, Chapel)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Monday, August 25	8:30 am	Preschool School Year Begins
Tuesday, August 26	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
	5:30 pm	Chapel Ringers (S)
	6:00 pm	Basketball Pickup (Gym)
Wednesday, August 27	8:30 am	Preschool
	7:00 pm	Evening Suffrages and Episode of the Chosen
Thursday, August 28	8:30 am	Preschool
	11:00 am	Bible Study (Library)
Friday, August 29		
Saturday, August 30	9:00 am	Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, August 31	8:30 am	Fellowship with coffee
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)



DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1, 55:17*). May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 35—August 24 to August 31, 2025

08/24 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:1-19—Evening Reading: Psalms 116, 117, 118

08/25 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:20-40—Evening Reading: Psalms 119:1-88

08/26 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 8—Evening Reading: Psalms 119:89-176

08/27 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 9—Evening Reading: Psalms 120, 121, 122

08/28 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-18—Evening Reading: Psalms 123, 124, 125

08/29 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:19-33—Evening Reading: Psalms 126, 127, 128

08/30 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:1-16—Evening Reading: Psalms 129, 130, 131

08/31 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:17-34—Evening Reading: Psalms 132, 133, 134

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.



PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Margaret Berghello, Shirley Bradley, Gail Brown, Miles Carpenter, George Cashion, Ruby Cook, Baker Hampton, Henry Hoffman, James Hovis, **Ken Lentz**, Pat Lindler, Ann Lowe, Janet McKinney, Trish Ratchford and Kay Robinson.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Gage Brown, Deborah Carpenter, Zandra Chavis, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Tucker Doyne, Kenny Falls, Jameson Franklin, Al Froneberger, Jan Green, Jerry Green, Millie Holland, John, Kathy Jenkins, Kirk Jordan, Debbie Kerspie, Don Kincaid, Sherry McCart, Bobby Myers, Betty Parlier, Rita Pasour, Jeff Rawls, Jeff Smith, Christy Carpenter Smith, Mickey and Shelia Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner, and Kennedy Williams.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439)

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

Wednesday, July 30 ~ Evening Suffrages and The Chosen

Psalm 80 “*Restore Us O God*” - Chosen “*Beyond Mountains*”

Thursday, July 31 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Nehemiah 8:1-10 “*Set Free*”

Sunday, August 3 ~ Holy Communion

Malachi 4:1-6 and Luke 14:1, 7-14 “*An Invitation to Dinner*”



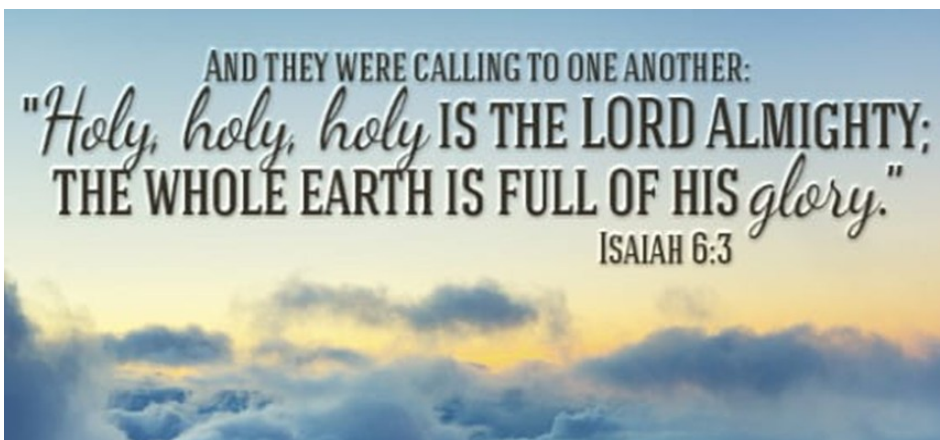
Series on the Holy Communion Service

Part 4

Why do we pray this almost every Sunday service?

The Lutheran Confessions assert that “The chief Service of God is to preach the Gospel” (**Apology of the Augsburg Confession**, 15:42). So, where is the good news in the Service millennia by millennia, Sunday by Sunday? Consider this little commentary on the Holy Communion Service. If the Holy

Spirit has passed these scriptures and songs down to us, then maybe they are worth putting in our hearts, right?



Holy, Holy, Holy (The Sanctus) – The song of the seraphim, heard by the Prophet

Isaiah at his call to serve the LORD (Isaiah 6:1-4), directs us to the One who alone is holy. As the LORD is holy, so He makes His people holy through the gift of His Word and Sacrament for us.

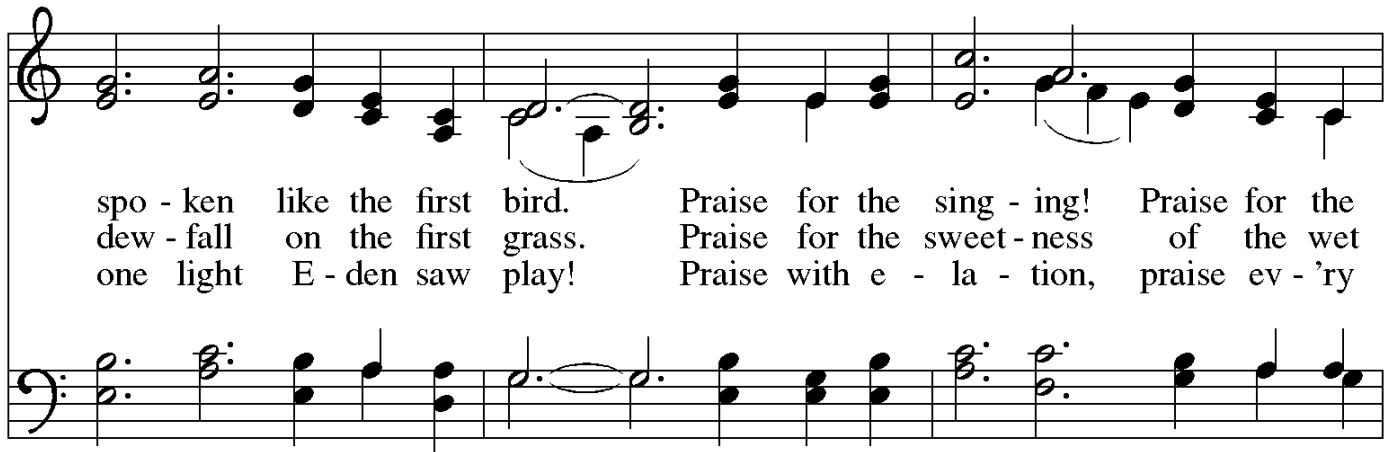
Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) – John the Baptist cries out, pointing all to Jesus, the true Lamb of God (John 1:29). Jesus is the fulfillment of the sacrificial system command-



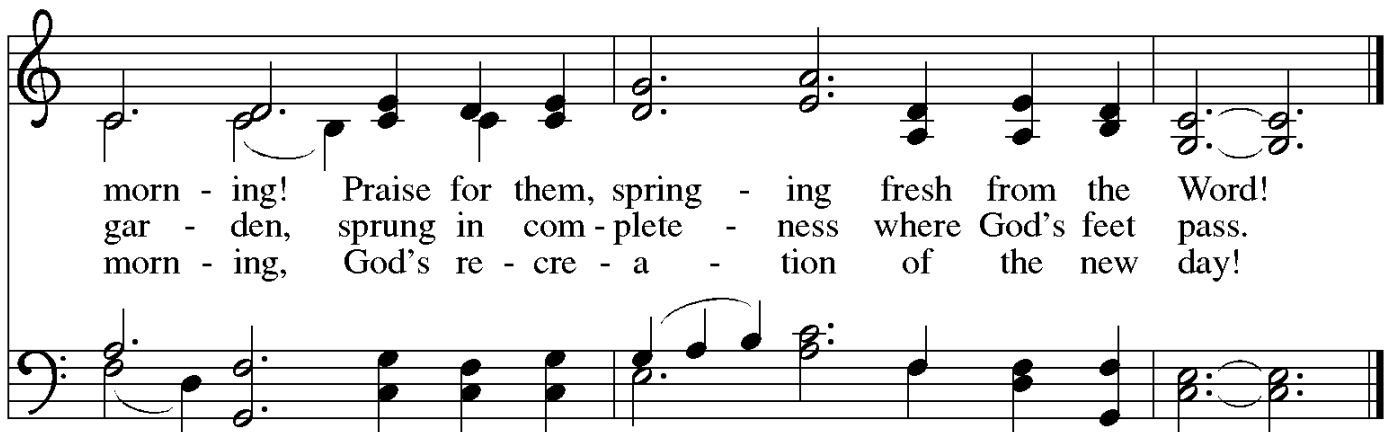
Morning Has Broken



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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You Are Mine

581



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see.
 heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.

(2) In the



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here.
 Come and rest in me.
 all will know my name.
 up, now walk and live!

To stanza 2
 To refrain
 To refrain
 To refrain



Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

To stanzas 3 and 4

4 "I

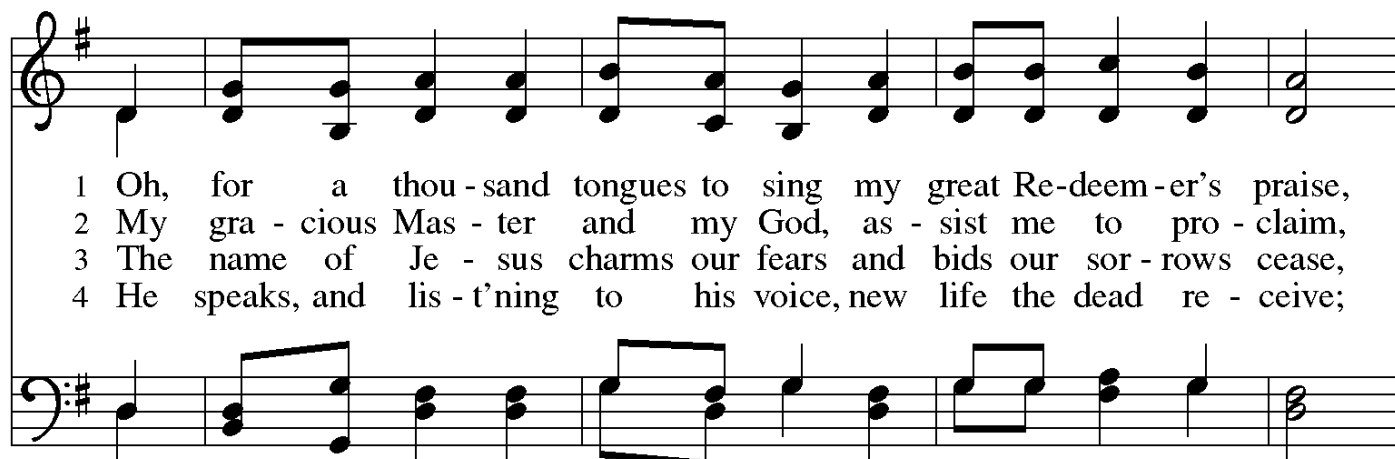
Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: David Haas

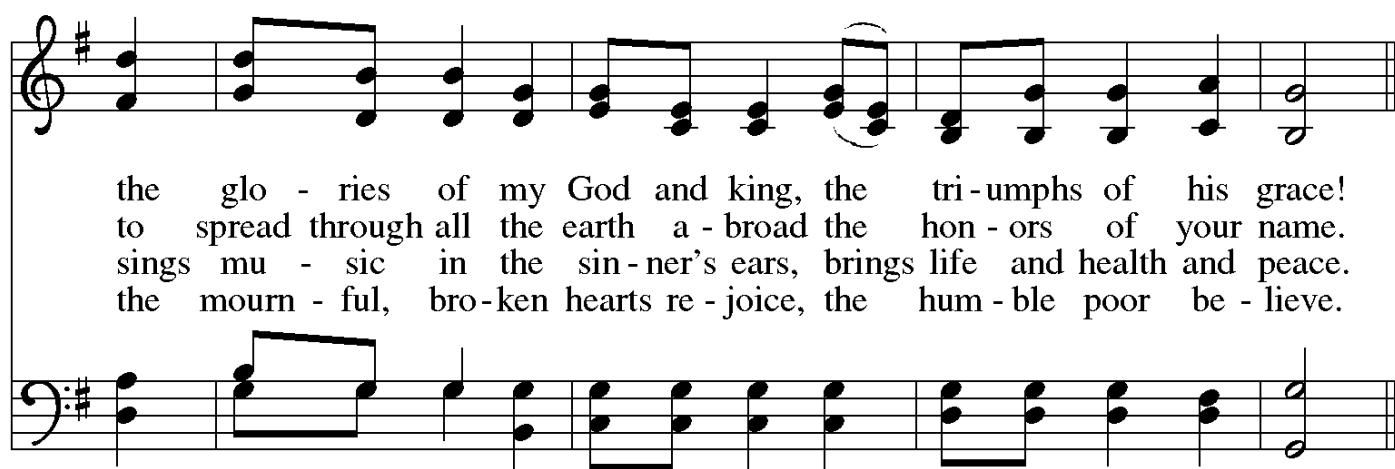
Text and music © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

YOU ARE MINE
arranged

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872