

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



MALACHI 4:1-6 and LUKE 14:1, 7-14

"An Invitation to Dinner"

**ANTE COMMUNION
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 31, 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

"Meditation"

W.G. Alcock

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, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of 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

MALACHI 4:1-6

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³ And you shall

tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

⁴Remember the teaching of my servant Moses, the statutes and ordinances that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. ⁶He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.

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 112



Psalm 112:4

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

Hallelujah! Happy are they who ¹fear the LORD
and have great delight in ¹God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty ¹in the land;**
the generation of the upright ¹will be blessed.

Refrain

³Wealth and riches will be ¹in their house,
and their righteousness will ¹last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness ¹for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full ¹of compassion.

⁵It is good for them to be gener- ¹ous in lending
and to manage their af- ¹fairs with justice.

⁶**For they will nev- ¹er be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlast- ¹ing remembrance.

Refrain

⁷They will not be afraid of any ¹evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting ¹in the LORD.

⁸**Their heart is established and ¹will not shrink,**
until they see their desire up- ¹on their enemies.

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands ¹fast forever;
they will hold up their ¹head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry;**
they will gnash their teeth and ¹pine away;
the desires of the wick- ¹ed will perish.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 13:1-8, 15-16

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

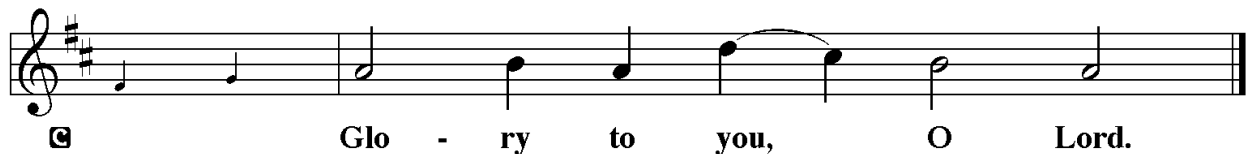
Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

LUKE 14:1,7-14

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

Response after the announcement:

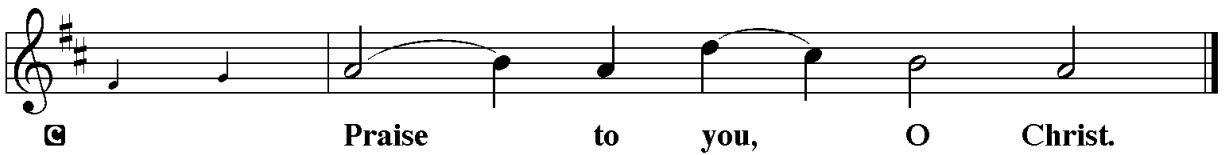


¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

"An Invitation to Dinner"

The Prophet Malachi and the Day of the LORD

Be Humble or Be Humbled

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: Why do we insist on divisions and classifying people?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: Jesus invites all to the feast of the Kingdom of God.

So What? Be humble. It takes a lot of pressure off. Whenever you see a fellow human being remember each one is made in God's image and Jesus died and rose for this one.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"God Welcomes All"

ACS #978

A two-staff musical score for the hymn 'God Welcomes All'. The top staff is in G major (one sharp) and common time, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff is in G major and common time, featuring a bass line of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written between the staves: 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' and 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.' The music concludes with a double bar line.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transc. and arr. John L. Bell.

Text and transcription © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

Refrain

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season with leaves that do not wither; Everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
For the Lord know the way, the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Refrain

***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 Anna Gilreath

"Be Thou My Vision"

Jerry van der Pol

***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**

"O God, Beyond All Praising"

ELW #880

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare in G"

John Dixon



In Honor & MEMORY



OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Debra and Henry Hoffman in honor of Matt's Birthday and Debra and Henry Hoffman's Wedding Anniversary .

Serving the CHURCH



Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibsich
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Noah Comer
Acolyte.....	Corbin Brown
Lector.....	Sylvia Fogel
Crucifer.....	Bram Comer
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Gene Weaver
Council Members of the Month.....	Matt Hoffman and Jenny Williamson

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.



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 Williams 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 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)

Monday, September 1

Tuesday, September 2

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday
- 5:30 pm Chapel Ringers
- 6:00 pm Basketball Pickup (Gym)

Wednesday, September 3

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 7:00 pm Evening Suffrages and Episode of the Chosen

Thursday, September 4

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 11:00 am Bible Study (Library)

Friday, September 5

- 9:00 am Men's Community Bible Study

Saturday, September 6

- 9:00 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, September 7

- 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 36—August 31 to September 7, 2025

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

09/01 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 12—Evening Reading: Psalms 135, 136

09/02 Morning Reading 1 Corinthians 13 ~ Evening Reading Palms 137, 138, 139

09/03 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 14:1-20—Evening Reading: Psalms 140, 141, 142

09/04 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 14:21-40—Evening Reading: Psalms 143, 144, 145

09/05 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-28—Evening Reading: Psalms 146, 147

09/06 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:29-58—Evening Reading: Psalms 148, 149, 150

09/07 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 16—Evening Reading: Proverbs 1, 2

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, Baker Hampton, Henry Hoffman, James Hovis, Ken Lentz, Ann Lowe, and Trish Ratchford.

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, for the family of Al Froneberger, Abi Gordon, Jan Green, Jerry Green, Millie Holland, John, Kathy Jenkins, Kirk Jordan, Debbie Kersprie, 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, Kennedy Williams and for those affected by the School Shooting in Minneapolis.

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, September 3 ~ Evening Suffrages and The Chosen

Psalm 81 "*Honey From the Rock*" - Chosen "*Homecoming*"


Thursday, September 4 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Malachi 4:1-6 "*Waiting*"

Sunday, September 7 ~ Holy Communion

John 1:1-18 and Luke 14:25-33 "*Carrying the Cross*"

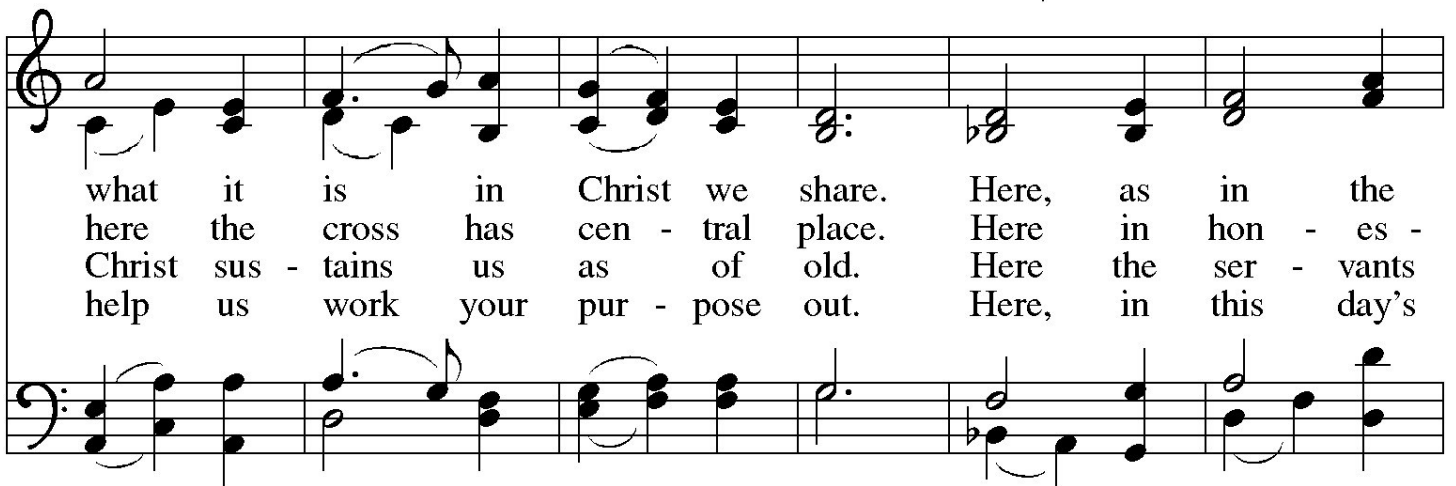
God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of




praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;




what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

(Continued on next page)



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
 to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
 and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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