# **LUTHERAN CHAPEL**

# 1st Sunday of AVEIII



**HEBREWS 11:1-16 and MATTHEW 24:36-44** 

"On the Apostle Andrew"

ANTE COMMUNION 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / ST ANDREWS DAY NOVEMBER 30, 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 "Come, O Savior of the World" Ludwig Beethoven

#### **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. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery; 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, pg. 138

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

# \*GLORY TO GOD

Luke 2:14, John 1:29, pg. 139

AM: Glory to God in the highest; and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

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

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.

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.

# \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# WORD

#### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

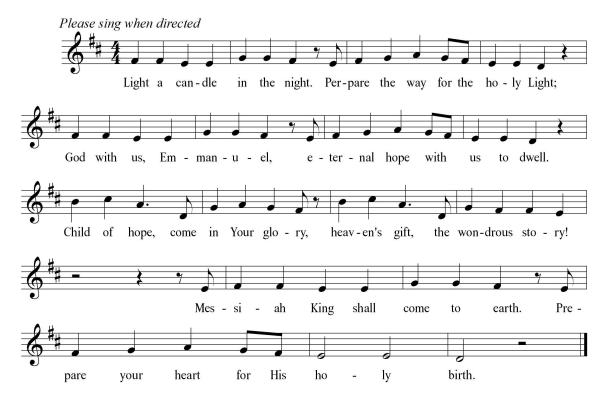
"Light a Candle in the Night"

Leader: Alex Berghello

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)

Put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with Him is full redemption. (Psalm 130:7)

Blessed is the one whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth – the Lord, who remains faithful forever. (Psalm 146:5-6)



Words and Music by Lloyd Larson © 2011 Lorenz Publishing Co.

# MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

FIRST LESSON ISAIAH 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob,

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more.

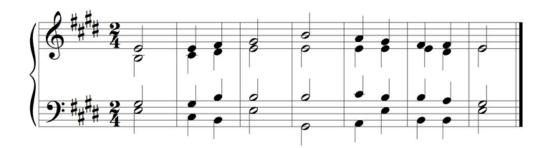
<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk

in the light of the LORD!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 122**



- 1. I was glad when they / said un · to / me, \* we will go / into · the / house of · the / Lord.
- 2. Our feet shall stand / in thy / gates, \* O / -- Je- / ru-sa- / lem.
- 3. Jerusalem is / built as · a / city \* that is at / uni · ty / in it- / self.
- 4. For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes / of the / Lord, \* to testify unto Israel, to give thanks / unto · the / Name of · the / Lord.
- 5. For there is the / seat of / judgement, \* even the / seat of · the / house of / David.
- 6. O pray for the / peace of · Je- / rusalem; \* they shall / prosper · that / **love** / thee.
- 7. Peace be with- / in thy / walls, \* and / plenteousness · with- / in thy / palaces.
- 8. For my brethren and com-/panions'/sakes, \* I will / wish / thee pros-/perity.
- 9. Yea because of the house of the / Lord our / God, \* I will / seek to / do thee / good.
- 10. Glory be to the Father and / to the / Son, \* And / to the / Ho-ly / Ghost.
- 11. As it was in the beginning, is now and / ev-er / shall be; \* World without / end / A- / men.

# STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

# **HEBREWS 11:1-16, 1 2:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain's. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death, and "he was not found, because God had taken him." For it was attested before he was taken away that "he had pleased God." <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would approach God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he

condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

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. <u>The + marks where we are now.</u> Memory verse is in bold.

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

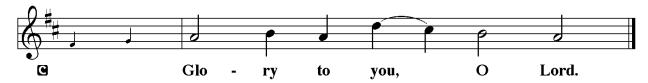
# \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

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

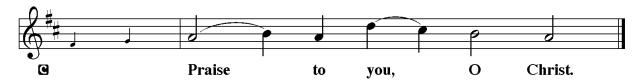
\*GOSPEL MATTHEW 24:36-44

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel. Response after the announcement:



<sup>36</sup> "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was

coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. P: The Gospel of the Lord.



#### **MESSAGE**

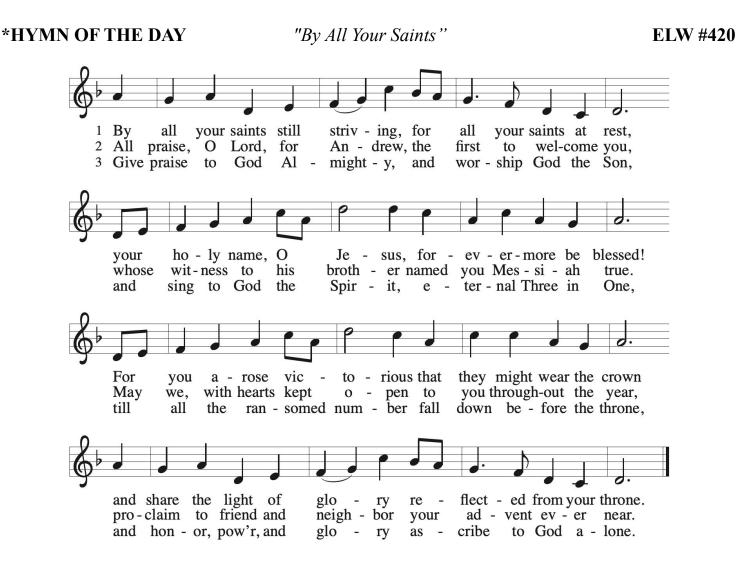
"On the Apostle Andrew"

# On the Great Cloud of Witnesses Awake and the Story of St. Andrew

**The Law** is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus's aving power: Am I ready? Or am I totally unaware that Christ is coming again?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus 'ultimate saving power: Jesus Christ. Alpha and Omega, is coming and will set all things right.

**So What?** Update your emergency supplies. Keep daily prayers to keep awake/alert. Study the lives of the saints who have come before us.



Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt. Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

## \*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**

"Lord of the Stars"

Ruth Elaine Schram

# \*OFFERTORY

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalm 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

"Lord, Be Glorified"

**ELW #744** 

\*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

Partita on "People Look East"

Joseph Bertolozzi



#### SERVING THE CHURCH

Ministers	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant	Susan Hibsch
Director of Music Ministries	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister	
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman
Lector	Pam Overcash
Crucifer	Jordan Hoffman
Head Ushers	
First Aid/AED/CPR	Tammy Royston
Council Members of the Month	Jenny Williamson and Debi Jean Wankel



**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.

CHRISTMAS BANQUET: The Christmas Banquet will be held on Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 pm in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$18.00 each. Be sure to get yours today from Steve Clark, Rick Peak, Terry Ratchford or Charles Edwards. Door prize donations are appreciated! Sponsored by the men of the church.

**SANTA LUNCH:** The Christian Ed, Youth & Family and Worship & Music committees would like to invite everyone to stay for a Santa Lunch and birthday celebration for Jesus immediately following the **December 14** Cantata Worship Service. We will have a yummy lunch, birthday cake and even a very special guest! We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join your Lutheran Chapel family as we celebrate Jesus' birth.

**STAFF GIFT:** Traditionally we present our dedicated Church Staff with a monetary "thank you" gift during the holiday season. If you feel so inclined to participate, you can drop your gift in the offering plate, mail it, drop it by the Church office or give it to one of the Executive Council members Jenny Williamson, Rob Andrews, Gene Weaver, Jason Sanders or Debra Hoffman. Please note "Staff Gift" with your contribution. The cut-off for contributions is **Sunday, December 14th** to allow for presentation to staff on Sunday, December 21. Thank you for your prayerful consideration as we honor and remember our staff members who work so diligently to serve Christ and our congregation.

CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY REQUEST FOR HELP: Crisis Assistance Ministry is a ministry of many Christian churches and the Jewish synagogue in Gastonia committed to helping our neighbors in need with food and assistance with bills. Due to the federal government shut down and the ending if SNAP funding, C.A.M. is requesting help with extra food donations and monetary gifts. Some ideas include: "shop one for me, one for CAM" - each time you grocery shop, buy one extra item to donate, or "pantry cleanout with a purpose" - check your pantry for unopened, unexpired items and donate what you can give. Thanks for considering and, as always, do as our Lord leads you.

LOVE OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER: The Crisis Pregnancy Center's mission is to affirm the



value of life by compassionately sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and providing the following services: pregnancy counseling, abstinence education, limited ultrasounds and various other medical services, adolescent parenting programs, abortion education- procedures, risks and alternatives, post abortion counseling to women, men, and families affected by crisis pregnancy situations, with the hope of changing lives.



**Sunday, November 30** 8:30 am Fellowship with coffee

9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:00 am Confirmation

8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, December 1 8:30 am Preschool

7:00 - 9:00 pm Cantamus Choir

Tuesday, December 2 8:30 am Preschool

10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday

5:30 pm Chapel Ringers (S)

6:00 pm Basketball Pickup (Gym)

Wednesday, December 3 8:30 am Preschool

6:00 pm Evening Suffrages and Episode of the Chosen

Thursday, December 4 8:30 am Preschool

11:00 am Bible Study (Library)

Friday, December 5 9:00 am Men's Community Bible Study

Saturday, December 6 9:00 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)

**Sunday, December 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 49—November 30 to December 7, 2025

11/30 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 2—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 37, 38, 39

12/01 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 40, 41

12/02 Morning Reading: 1 John 1—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 42, 43, 44

12/03 Morning Reading: 1 John 2—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 45, 46

12/04 Morning Reading: 1 John 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 47, 48

12/05 Morning Reading: 1 John 4—Evening Reading: Daniel 1, 2

12/06 Morning Reading: 1 John 5—Evening Reading: Daniel 3, 4

12/07 Morning Reading: 2 John—Evening Reading: Daniel 5, 6, 7



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, Shirley Carpenter, Delana Clark, Ruby Cook, Baker Hampton, Henry Hoffman, Jason Lineberger, Ann Lowe and Fred Ward.

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Gage Brown, Deborah Carpenter, Zandra Chavis, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Tucker Doyne, Aishia Duncan. Kenny Falls, Jameson Franklin, Abi Gordon, Jan Green, Jerry Green, John, Kathy Jenkins, Kirk Jordan, Debbie Kerspie, Don Kincaid, Sherry McCart, Bobby Myers, Betty Parlier, Rita Pasour, Jeff Rawls, Jeff Smith, Christy Carpenter 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, December 3 ~ Evening Suffrages and The Chosen

Holden Evening Prayer Psalm 93 "The LORD Reigns - Past, Present, and Future"

# Thursday, December 4 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Hebrews 11:1-16, 12:1-2 "On the Apostle Andrew"

# **Sunday, December 7 ~ Holy Communion**

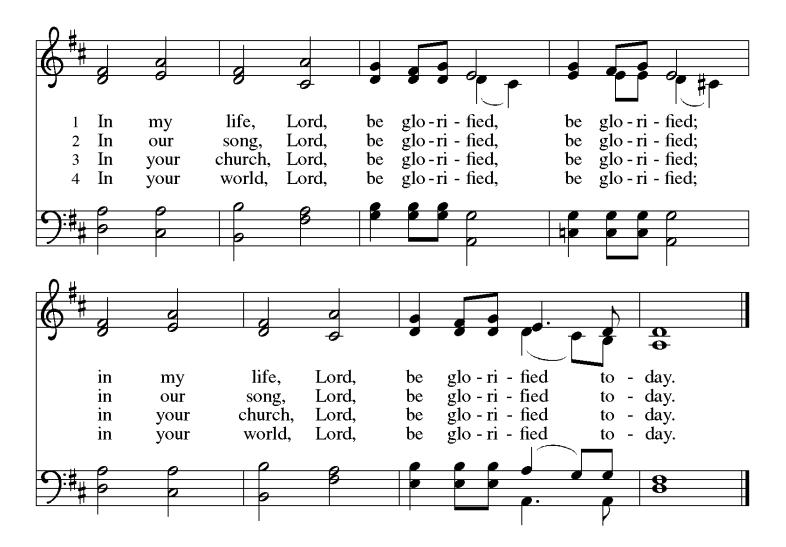
1 Peter 5:6-11 and Matthew 3:1-12 "On John the Babtist"

# Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

# Lord, Be Glorified



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