

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



GENESIS 32:22-32 and MATTHEW 5:13-20

"Salt"

**ANTE COMMUNION / BAPTISM
5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**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

"Dance"

Anonymous

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"Amazing Grace"

ELW #779

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Angie Bradshaw and Gabriella Dawkins

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

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

Presentation

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P: Angie do you desire to be baptized?

Response: I do.

P: Will you keep the covenant God makes 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 work and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Gabriella baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

P: As you bring Gabriella to receive the gift of baptism you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy Scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that Gabriella may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God has made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Gabriella grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors or godparent.

P: Do you promise to nurture Gabriella in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Holy Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: People of God, do you promise to support them and pray for Angie and Gabriella in their new life in Christ.

Response: We do and we ask God to help us.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: 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?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

Response: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Response: 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P: The Lord be with you.

Response: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer is lifted up recalling God's mighty works from creation to the days of Noah, the Exodus, the baptism of our Lord Jesus, and the Great Commission given to the church and leading up to now.

ADMINISTRATION OF BAPTISM AND WELCOME

Holy Baptism is administered by water poured on the head or immersion into the waters.

P: I baptize you in the Name of the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Response: Amen!

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized and may anoint with oil.

P: Angie and Gabriella, children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Response: Amen!

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized as Scripture from the Gospel of Matthew 5:16 is shared.

P: Let your light so shine before others that they see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Response: Amen!

The peace of Christ may be shared by the assembly and the Service continues with the Prayer of the Day.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (In Unison)

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

C: Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through 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

GENESIS 32:22-32

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ **Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed."** ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

L: The Word of the Lord.

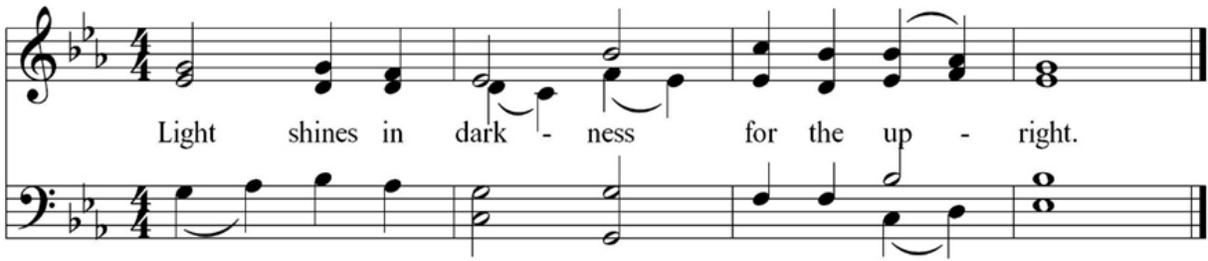
C: Thanks be to God.

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 112:1-9



Music: thomas Pavelchko
based on EVENTIDE, william H. Monk (1823-1889)

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
And have great delight in God's commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.

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

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

Refrain

It is good for them to be generous in lending
And to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken;
The righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
Their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their heart is established and will not shrink,
Until they see their desire upon their enemies.

Refrain

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

The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
The desires of the wicked will perish.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12 [13-16]

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.]

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 6:68

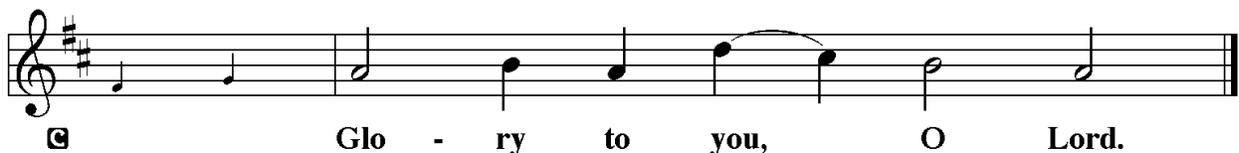
Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

***GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 5:13-20

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

Response after the announcement:

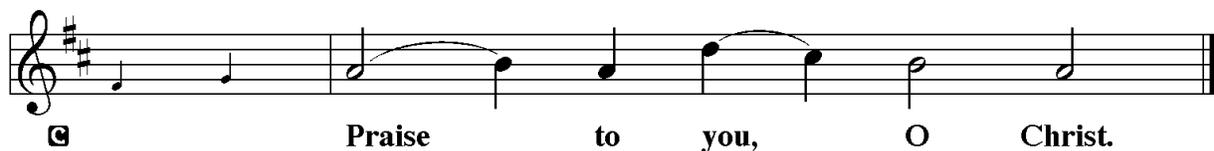


¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“Salt”

Journey of Jacob the Patriarch Salt and Light

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: Can God bring good out of evil, really? Let your light shine – or is it better to be quiet and compromise with the vanities of this broken world?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: The Light of Christ shines and the darkness and mess of this world will not overcome Him.

So What? Can I live in the tension that recognizes many things may be true at once – Jacob is a bad sinner and Jacob is a saint in Christ at the same time? Let your light shine through how you live the gift of life God has given.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Borning Cry"

ELW #732

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Shepherd of Souls"

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**

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"

ELW #836

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Baroque Trumpet"

Gordon Young

† † † † † † †

In Honor &
MEMORY



OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Shirley Carpenter in honor of Todd's Birthday

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.....Jeanette Myers
Acolyte.....Corbin Brown
Lector.....Norman Overcash
Crucifer.....Will Clark
Head Ushers.....Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....Mark Thornburg
Council Members of the Month.....Pam Overcash & Mike Bell



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.

OWLS: We hope you’ll join us for our OWL-standing time of fellowship on **Thursday, February 19**, at 11:00 am at Eagles Nest, Clover. The bus will leave from the church at 10:30 if you would like a ride.

LENT: The season of Lent begins on Ash **Wednesday, February 18** with imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion @ 6 pm.

2026 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: If you’d like to sign up for a Sunday in 2026, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 or email sudalewi@gmail.com. We still need flowers for April 19, October 4, Nov 8, and Nov 22.

LOVE OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY: The love offering for February will go to the Backpack Weekend Food Program. For the past 14 years, Lutheran Chapel Church has supported the BWFP by providing meals to needy students in Gaston County. Between 800 and 1,000 students in Gaston County Schools will go home this weekend to a household with very little food to eat or no food at all. The BWFP is dedicated to providing healthy, non-perishable meals to students to take home on the weekend during the school year so they can come to school the following week better nourished and ready to learn.



Weekly CALENDAR



Sunday, February 8

8:30 am Fellowship with coffee
9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:00 am Confirmation
11:30 am Chancel Choir
4-6 pm Life In Christ
8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, February 9

8:30 am Preschool

Tuesday, February 10

8:30 am Preschool
10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday
6:00 pm Property Meeting (Conference)
6:00 pm Pickup Basketball

Wednesday, February 11

8:30 am Preschool
6:00 pm Evening Suffrages and Episode of the Chosen

Thursday, February 12

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

Friday, February 13

Office Closed
9:00 am Men's Community Bible Study (Library)

Saturday, February 14

9:30 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, February 15

8:30 am Fellowship with coffee
9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Let's **PRAY**



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 7—February 8 to February 15, 2026

02/08 Morning Reading: Matthew 24:29-51—Evening Reading: Leviticus 4, 5
02/09 Morning Reading: Matthew 25:1-30—Evening Reading: Leviticus 6, 7
02/10 Morning Reading: Matthew 25:31-46—Evening Reading: Leviticus 8, 9, 10
02/11 Morning Reading: Matthew 26:1-25—Evening Reading: Leviticus 11, 12
02/12 Morning Reading: Matthew 26:26-50—Evening Reading: Leviticus 13
02/13 Morning Reading: Matthew 26:51-75—Evening Reading: Leviticus 14
02/14 Morning Reading: Matthew 27:1-26—Evening Reading: Leviticus 15, 16
02/15 Morning Reading: Matthew 27:27-50—Evening Reading: Leviticus 17, 18

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: Shirley Bradley, Gail Brown, Miles Carpenter, Shirley Carpenter, George Cashion, Delana Clark, Baker Hampton, Henry Hoffman, Jason Lineberger, Janie Peak. Cathy Robinson, and David Zibell.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Gage Brown, Deborah Carpenter, Zandra Chavis, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Hall Darden, Edith Dean, Genniser Devega, Tucker Doayne, Ralph Euchner, Kenny Falls, Jameson Franklin, Abi Gordon, Jan Green, Jerry Green, John, Kathy Jenkins, Debbie Kerspise, Don Kincaid, Sherry McCart, Betty Parlier, Rita Pasour, 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, February 11~ Evening Suffrages and The Chosen

Psalm 99 "*Moses, Aaron, Samuel, David and Us*" - Chosen "*Humble*"

Thursday, February 12 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Genesis 32:22-32 "*Salt*"

Sunday, February 15 ~ Holy Communion

Genesis 50: 15-20 and Matthew 17:1-9 "*Transfiguration of our Lord 2026*"

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Borning Cry



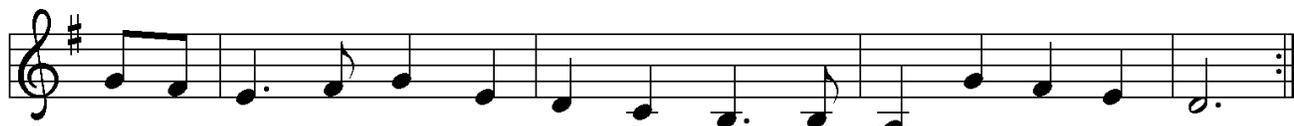
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no lon-ger young,



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold.
you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be-gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.

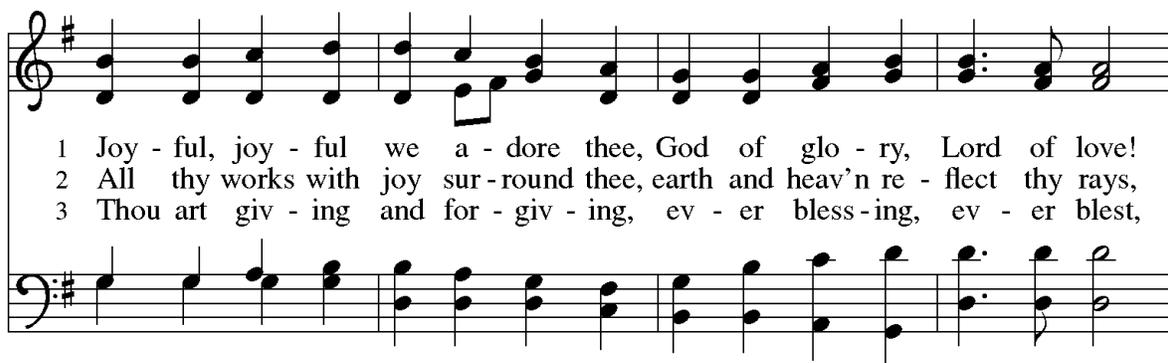


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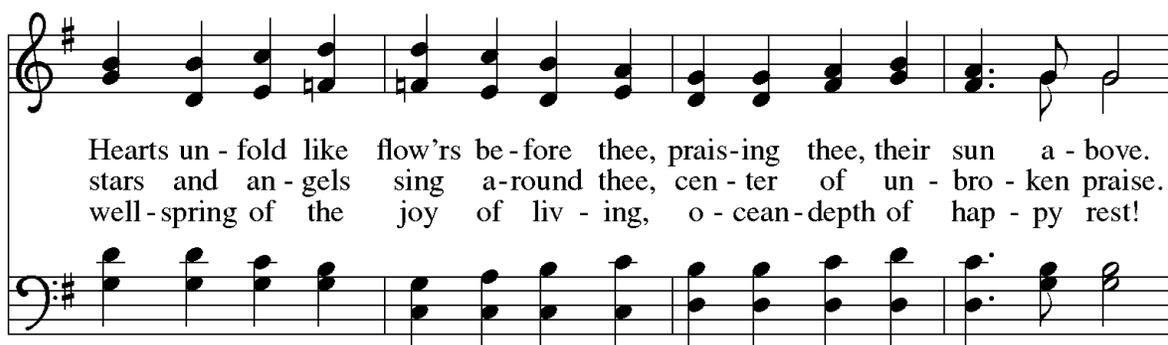
Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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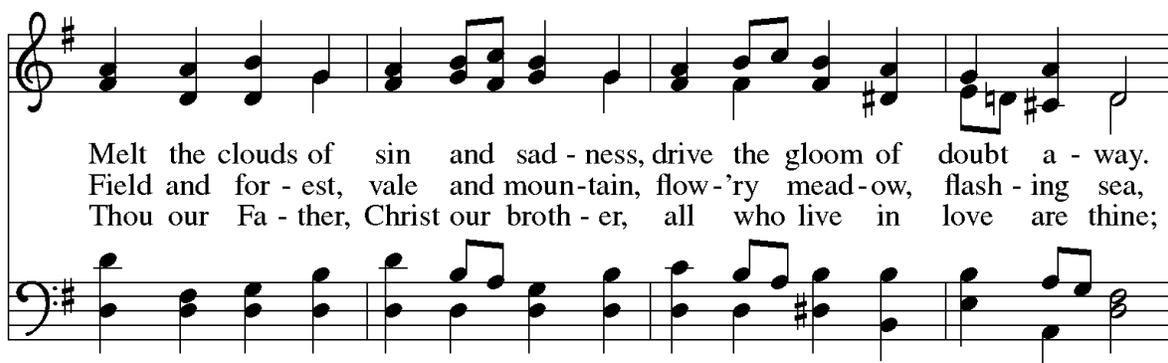
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!