



**Surely his salvation is near
to those who fear him.**

Psalm 85:9

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

Faith Lutheran Church

311 2B Judges Rd. Wilmington, NC. 28405
www.flcwnc.org

Welcome to our Visitors!

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are glad you are here. It is our sincere prayer that God would refresh you by His Holy Word and Sacrament and that you would take with you His peace and joy. If you would care to give us your contact information, we would like to get to know you better and keep in touch. If you have questions or are interested in membership, please speak to anyone here.

Holy Communion

We come to the table at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

Mission Statement

“...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

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Ministers: Members of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor: Paul Ebert

Director of Parish Music: Debra Ebert

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Faith Lutheran Church
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Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

LBW Holy Communion Setting Two

*Congregation please stand

Bold-Congregation responses

PRELUDE FAITHFULNESS

Arr. J. Bert Carlson

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with the power of the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts forever.

Amen

*ENTRANCE HYMN Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960
 Music: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957

FAITHFULNESS
 11 10 11 10 and refrain

*ENTRANCE HYMN Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Cont.)

Refrain

Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Great is Thy faith-ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see;

All I have need-ed Thy hand hath pro-vid-ed;

Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

***GREETING**

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

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

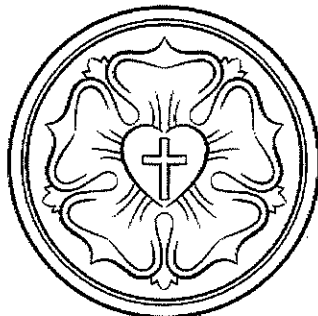
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Almighty God, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen



FIRST READING:

The First Reading is from Ezekiel the 33rd chapter.

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. ¹⁰And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel? ¹²And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live. ¹⁷Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 85

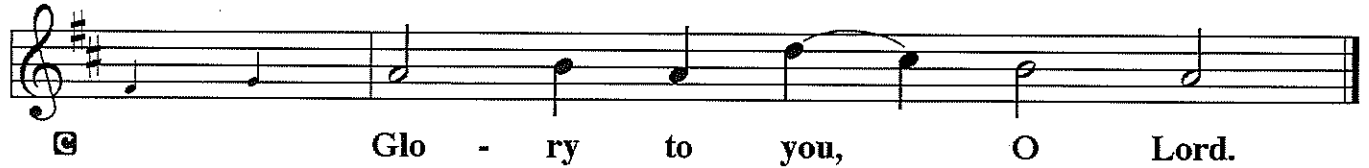


Righ-teous-ness shall go be-fore the LORD.

- ¹You have been gracious to your land, O Lord,
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- ²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.
- ³You have withdrawn all your fury
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
- ⁴Restore us then, O God our Savior;
let your anger depart from us. *Refrain:*
- ⁵Will you be displeased with us forever?
will you prolong your anger from age to age?
- ⁶Will you not give us life again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
- ⁸I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts
to him. *Refrain:*
- ⁹Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. *Refrain:*

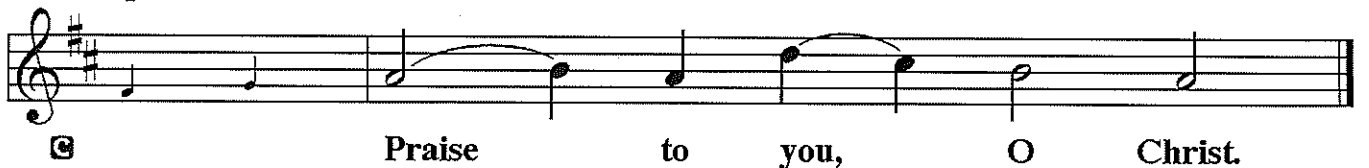
***GOSPEL:**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

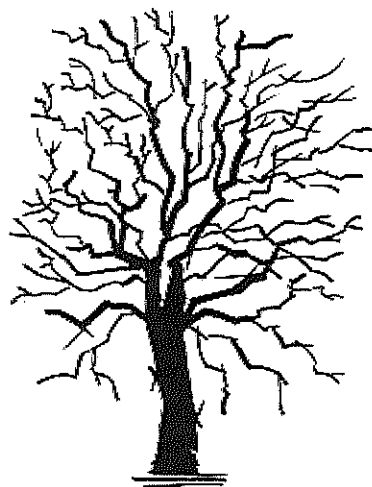


¹There were some present at that very time who told {Jesus} about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” ⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON Pr. Paul



HYMN OF THE DAY Jesus Sinners Will Receive

1 Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive; May they all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich
 3 When their sheep have lost their way, Faith - ful shep - herds
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro -
 go to seek them; Je - sus watch - es all who
 in - vi - ta - tion; Come, o - bey his gra - cious

live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
 claim. Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing; We with
 stray, Faith - ful - ly to find and take them In his
 call, Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly

hope for all who grieve:
 hum - ble hearts be - lieve Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive.
 arms, that they may live—
 in these words be - lieve:

5 Jesus sinners will receive.
 Even me he has forgiven;
 And when I this earth must leave,

I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave—
 Jesus sinners will receive.

***APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

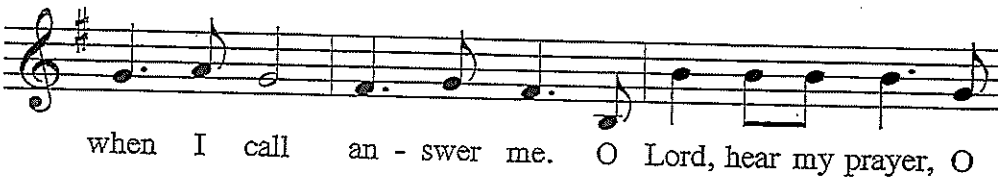
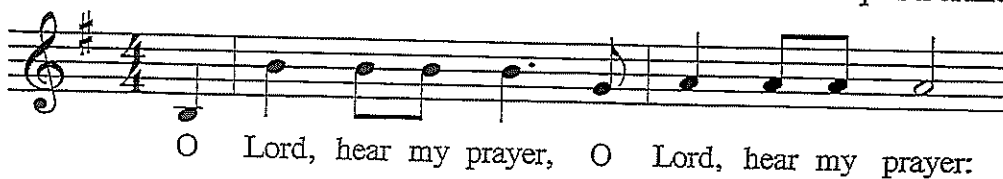
**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***HEAR OUR PRAYER**

Jacques Berthier



***THE PRAYERS**

Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(At this time we offer each other God's peace.)

OFFERTORY "Jesus Paid It All" *Arr. Lloyd Larson*
Tune: ALL TO CHRIST by John T. Grape

***LET THE VINEYARD**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

***SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

***LAMB OF GOD**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

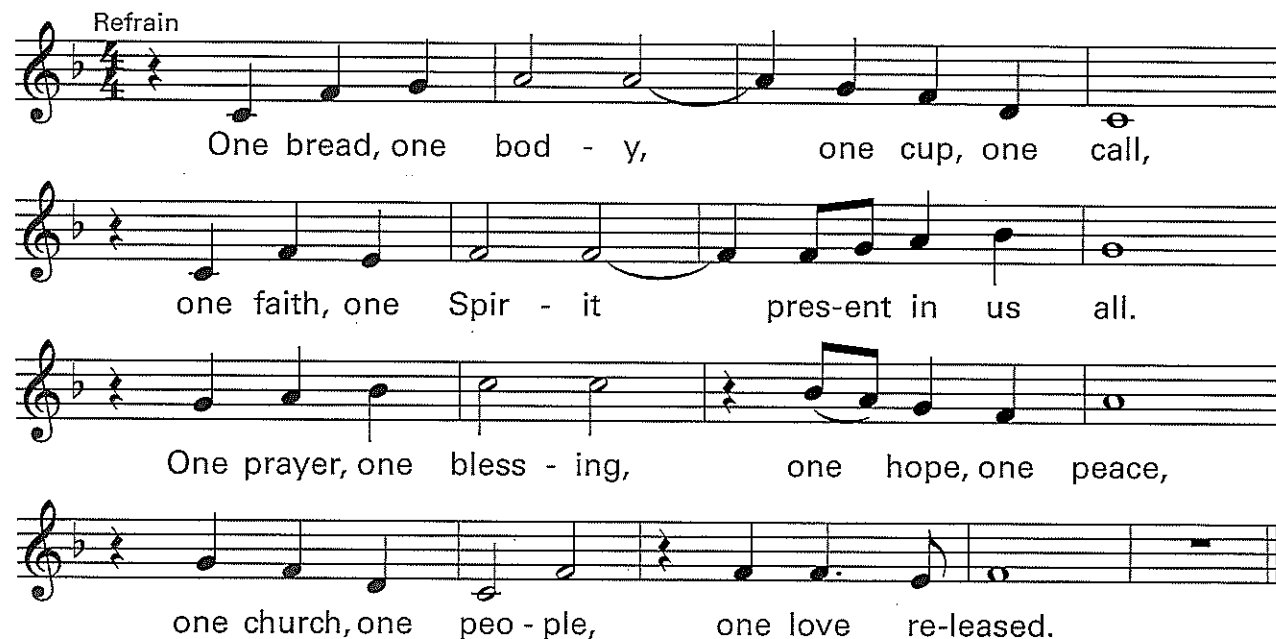


grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN One Love Released

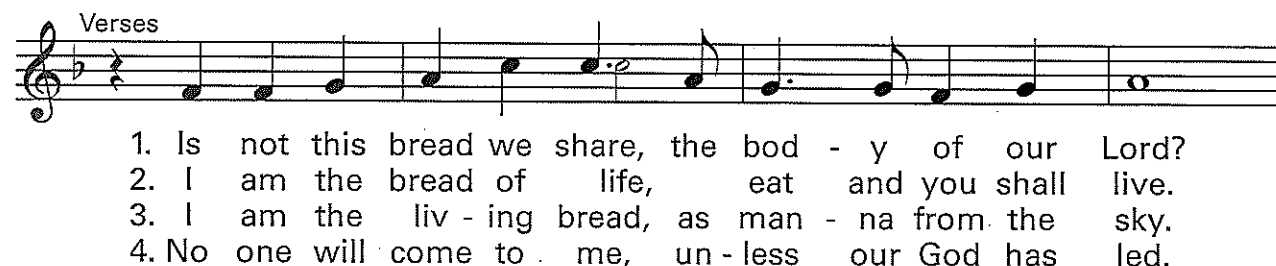
Bob Frenzel and Kevin Keil

Refrain

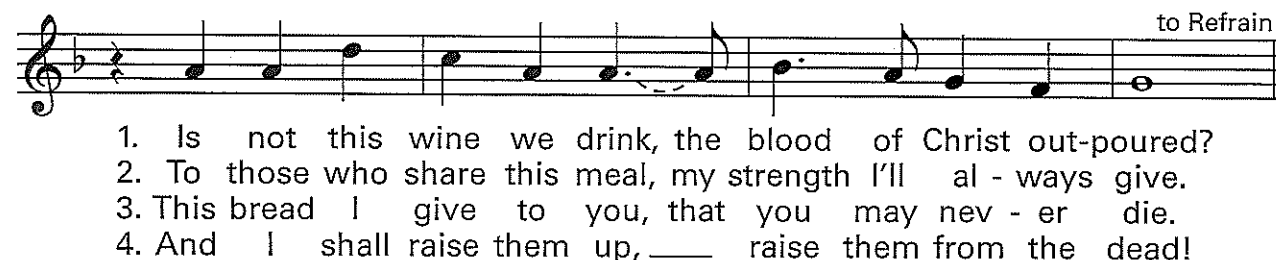


One bread, one bod - y, one cup, one call,
one faith, one Spir - it pres-ent in us all.
One prayer, one bless - ing, one hope, one peace,
one church, one peo - ple, one love re-leased.

Verses



1. Is not this bread we share, the bod - y of our Lord?
2. I am the bread of life, eat and you shall live.
3. I am the liv - ing bread, as man - na from the sky.
4. No one will come to me, un - less our God has led.



1. Is not this wine we drink, the blood of Christ out-poured?
2. To those who share this meal, my strength I'll al - ways give.
3. This bread I give to you, that you may nev - er die.
4. And I shall raise them up, — raise them from the dead!

to Refrain

Text: Bob Frenzel and Kevin Keil (ASCAP). Music: Based on O WALY WALY.
Text and music © 1999, 2000, Robert H. Frenzel and Kevin Keil. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

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

Amen

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

***BLESSING**

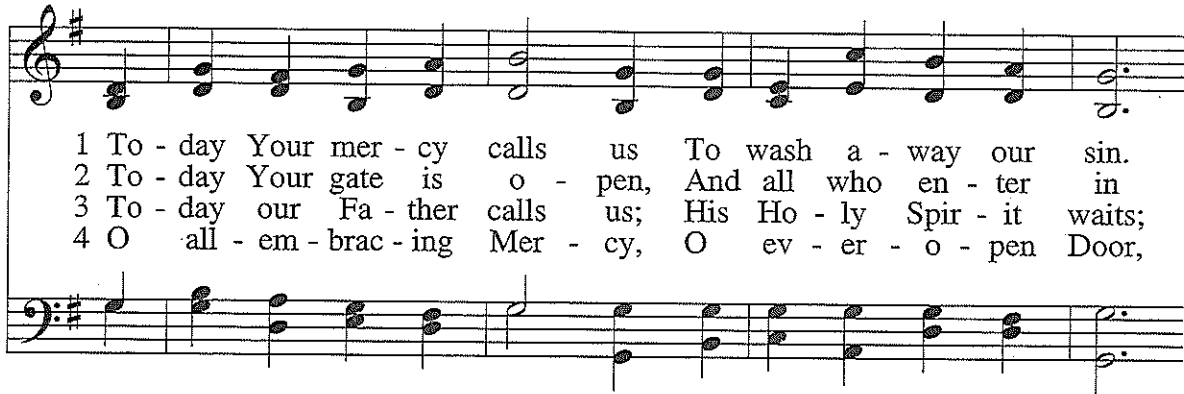
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

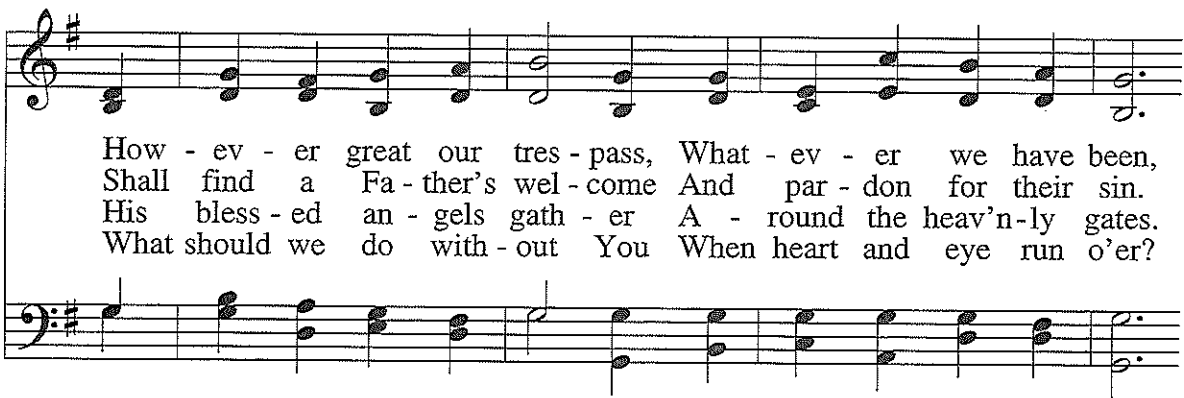
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen

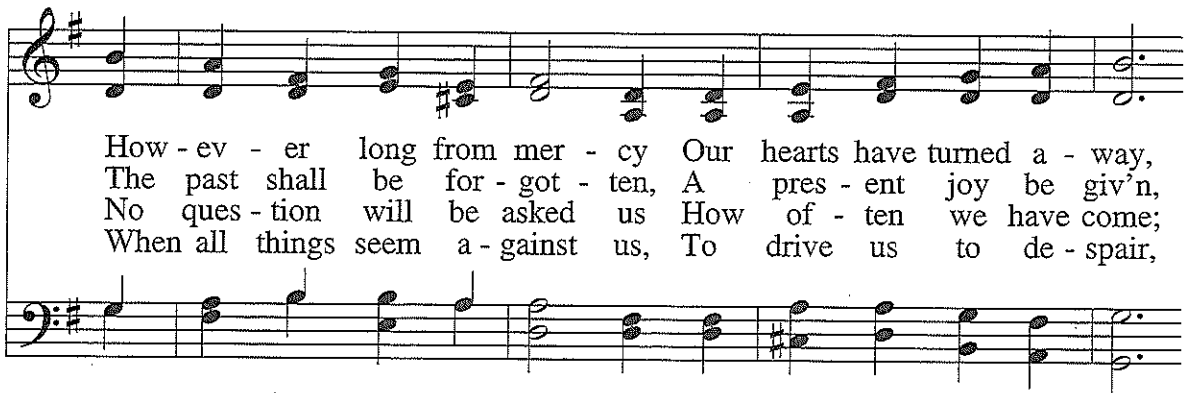
***SENDING HYMN Today Your Mercy Calls Us**



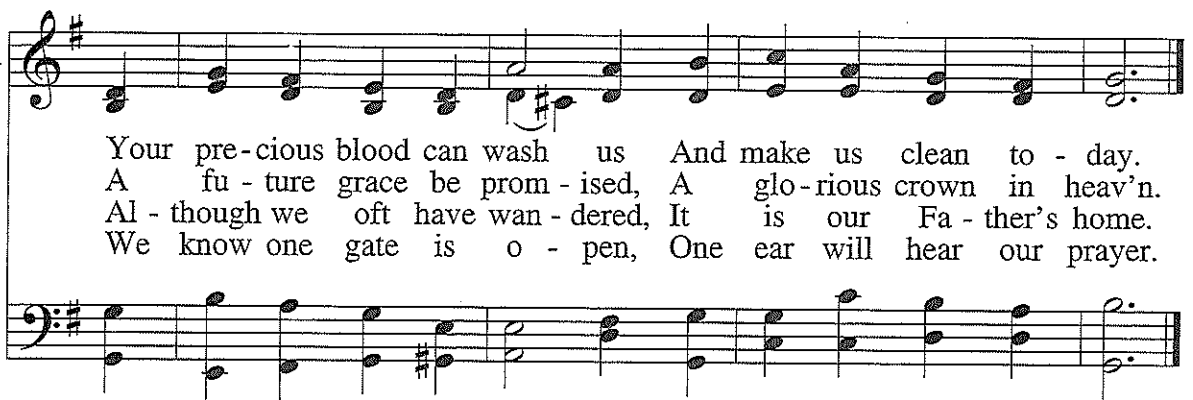
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Alternate key: 684

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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SERVING THE FAMILY OF FAITH

This Week: 3/23

Reader: Renate Gray

Communion: Renate Gray

Fellowship: Connie Palmer

Usher: John Humphrey

Next Week: 3/30

Reader: Zan Bramley

Communion:

Fellowship:

Usher: Gary Ebeltoft

Reminder: Midweek Lenten Services every Wednesday of Lent at 12 noon followed by soup luncheon.

There are a few opportunities to serve (blank spaces) between now and Easter on the sign-up sheets.

Ali is collecting any kind of glasses during Lent for the Congo.

There is a box in the back of church for your donation.

Thank you!!

Given to the Glory of God last week: \$2,484