

# Second Sunday in Lent

## March 1, 2026

Faith Lutheran Church  
311 2B Judges Rd. Wilmington, NC 28405  
[www.flcwnc.org](http://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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LBW Setting II

\*Congregation please stand

**Bold**-Congregation responses

**PRELUDE YAGDAL**

*Hebrew Setting by Timothy Shaw*

### **\*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,

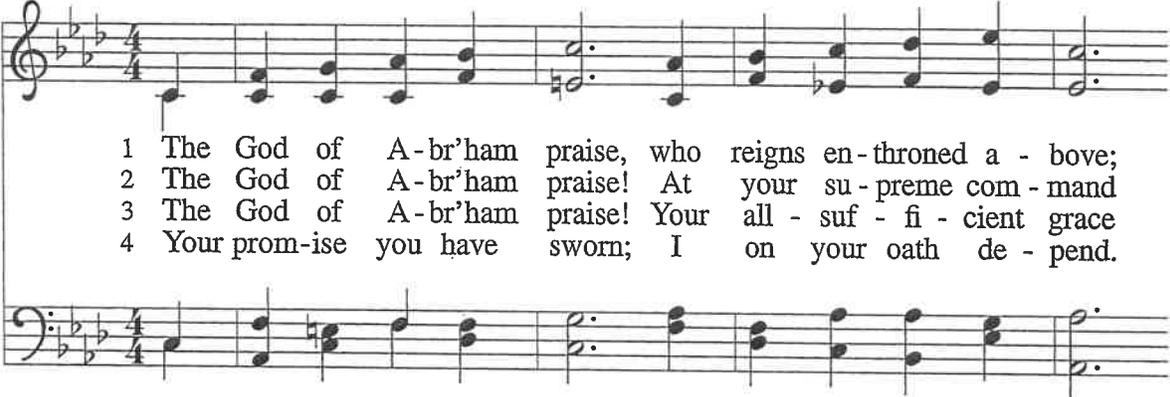
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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**

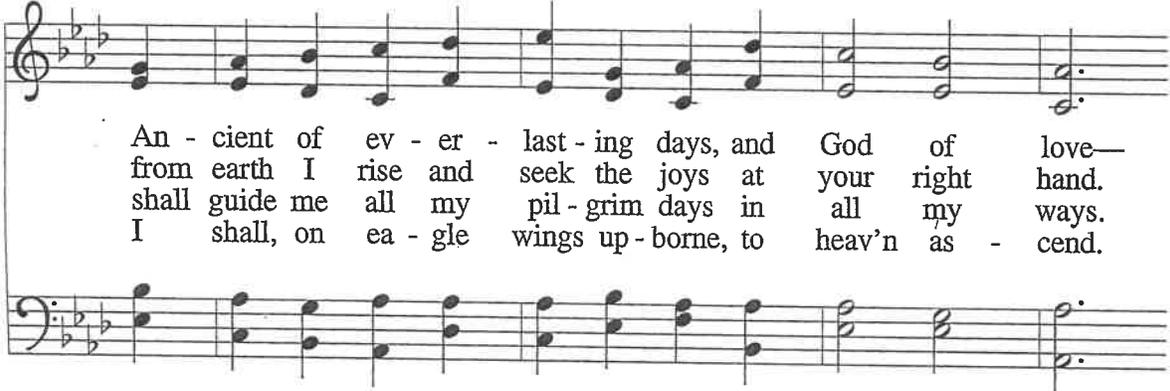
God our Father does care about us. In His mercy, He has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May Almighty God strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

**Amen**

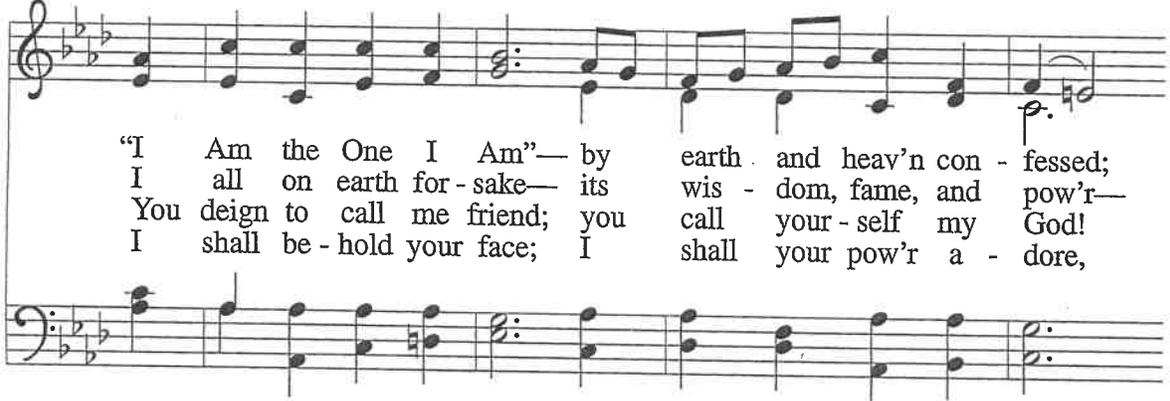
**\*ENTRANCE HYMN The God of Abraham Praise**



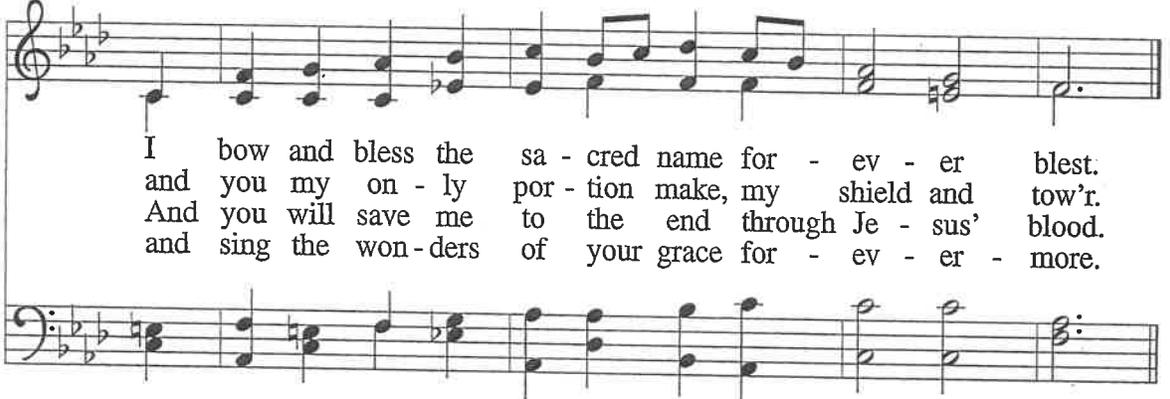
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
 2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand  
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all-suf-fi-cient grace  
 4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de-pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—  
 from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
 shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.  
 I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



“I Am the One I Am”— by earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
 I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
 You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!  
 I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.  
 and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
 And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.  
 and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

**\*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. . . .

Holy One, through the sacrament of baptism you bring us into your kingdom and grant us eternal life for the sake of your Son, Jesus. Keep us faithful, trusting in your promises of salvation for your creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**



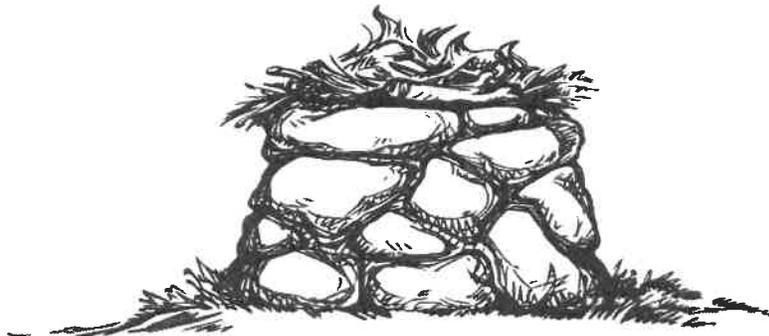
## FIRST READING

The First Reading is from Genesis, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

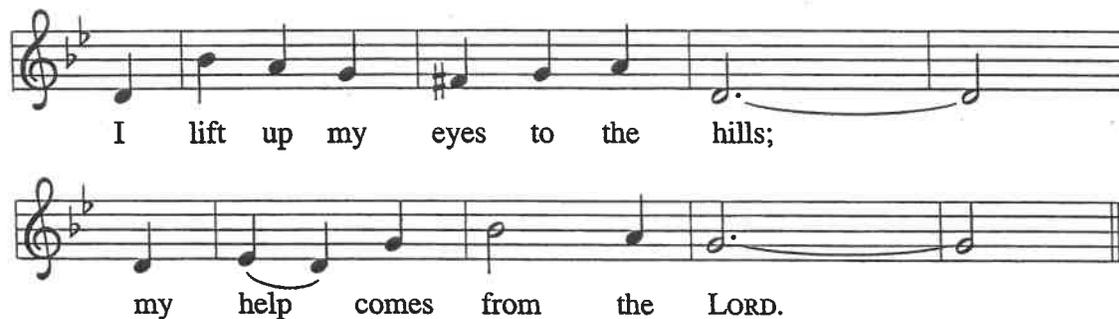
<sup>1</sup>Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” <sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



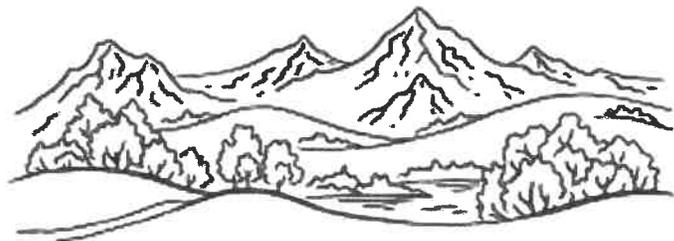
## PSALM 121



I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
my help comes from the LORD.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the psalm, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

- <sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?
- <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- <sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- <sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel  
shall neither slumber nor sleep; **Refrain:**
- <sup>5</sup>The Lord himself watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- <sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- <sup>7</sup>The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- <sup>8</sup>The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore. **Refrain:**



## SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from Romans, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: <sup>7</sup>“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; <sup>8</sup>blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” <sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. <sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### \*RETURN TO THE LORD



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord your God, who is



gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound-ing in stead-fast love.

## **\*GOSPEL:**

The Holy Gospel is taken from St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

<sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born

again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of

water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I

said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these

things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I

have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the

wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Word of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Lord.**

**SERMON** Pr. Paul

# HYMN OF THE DAY God Loved the World So That He Gave

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all

Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by

Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
 Be praise now and eternally!

Text: *Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer*, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

**\*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**

**\*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 greet one another in the name of the Lord.)*

**OFFERTORY “God’s Care”**

*Piano Solo*

*Written by Ben Logan*

### **\*LET THE VINEYARDS**

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

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## \*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

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMN      Bread of Life

Refrain



Bread of life, hope of the world, Je-sus Christ, our broth - er:



feed us now, give us life, lead us to one an - oth - er. (C)

Verses



1. As we pro-claim your death, as we re - call your life, we re-  
2. The bread we break and share was scat-tered once as grain: just as  
3. We eat this liv - ing bread, we drink this sav-ing cup: sign of  
4. Hold us in u - ni - ty, in love for all to see; that the  
5. You are the bread of peace, you are the wine of joy, bro-ken



to Refrain

1. mem - ber your prom - ise	to re - turn a - gain.
2. now it is gath - ered,	make your peo - ple one.
3. hope in our bro-ken world,	source of last - ing love.
4. world may be - lieve in you,	God of all who live.
5. now for your peo - ple,	poured in end - less love.

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## \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

Amen

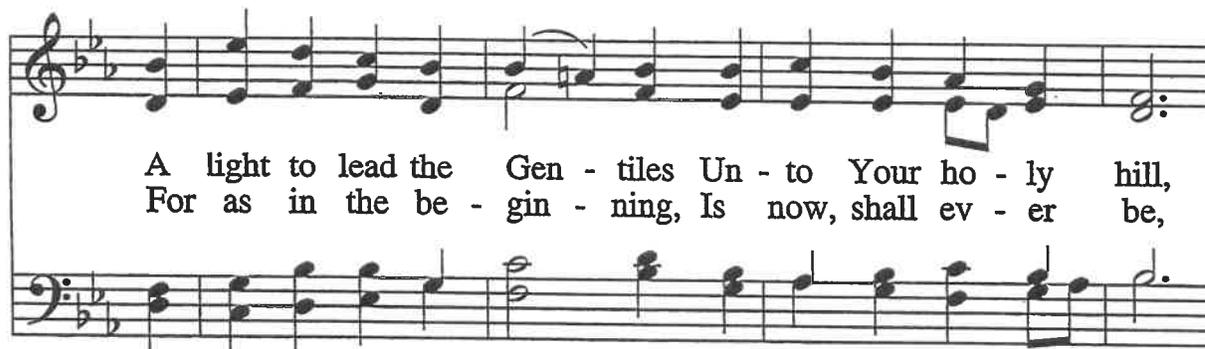
## \*NUNC DIMITIS



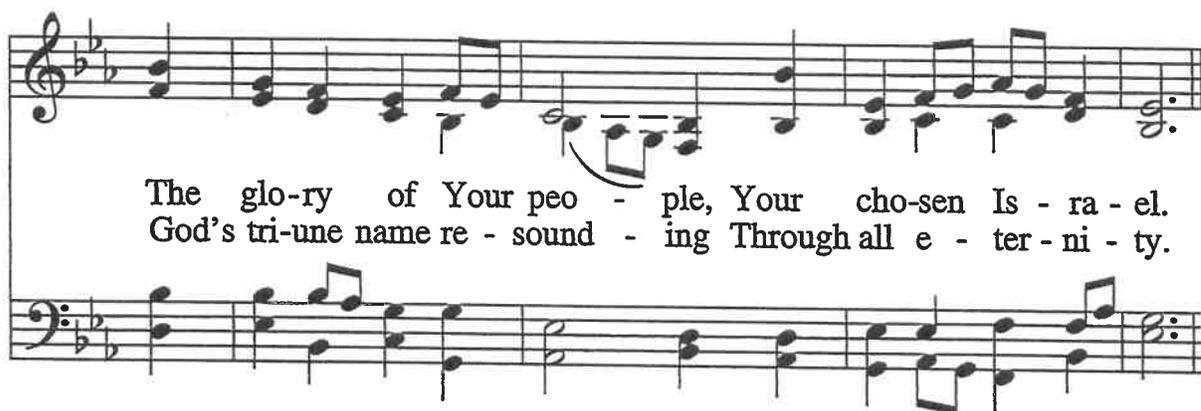
1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De - part in heav'n - ly peace,  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to the Son,



For I have seen the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un - to Your ho - ly hill,  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er be,



The glo - ry of Your peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
God's tri - une name re - 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 **By Grace We Have Been Saved**



1 By grace we have been saved through faith and  
2 For all have sinned and fall - en short. God's  
3 God gave to earth a per - fect love through  
4 We know the wage of sin is death; thank  
5 Set free, we now have peace with God. Sal -



not by keep - ing law. God's saints be - lieved by  
plan, not one o - beyed. Christ has for all ful -  
Je - sus on the cross. While we were foes, Christ  
God, we shall re - vive. For just as Je - sus  
va - tion is se - cured. How beau - ti - ful the



what they heard and not by what they saw.  
filled the law. Be - lieve, con - fess, be saved.  
died for us. We gained by God's own loss.  
rose a - gain, we too are made a - live.  
feet of those who share this gos - pel word.

*Refrain*



Oh, how I love Je - sus! Oh, how I love Je - sus!



Oh, how I love Je - sus, be - cause he first loved me!

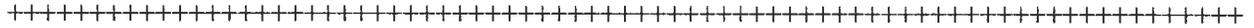
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERVING THE FAMILY OF FAITH**

**This Week: 3/1**

Reader: Bill Palmer  
Communion: Connie Palmer  
Fellowship: Connie Palmer  
Usher: Frank Gray

**Next Week: 3/8**

Reader: Zan Bramley  
Communion: Zan Bramley  
Fellowship: Margaret Ebeltoft  
Usher: John Humphrey

**Birthdays:** 3/1 Today! Gina Schiess  
3/5 Thursday Deb Ebert

**Reminder:** March and April sign up sheets are in the Narthex:  
3/1 Brief Congregation meeting.  
3/4 Lenten Worship, Wed. at 12 noon with soup luncheon to follow  
3/12 Women’s Bible Study, Thursday at 10 am.

**Given to the glory of God:** \$2, 010.00