

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**  
January 11, 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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Wilmington, NC 28405

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# Baptism of Our Lord

Jan. 11, 2026

Chicago Folk Service  
\*indicates to please stand  
**Bold**-congregation responses

**PRELUDE** “In Christ Alone”

*Stuart Townend and Keith Getty  
Arr. Carol Tornquist*

## **\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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 captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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, Son and Holy Spirit, +, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

**Amen.**

**\*ENTRANCE HYMN River of Glory**

Dan Schutte

**Refrain**

Riv - er of glo - ry, springs of our birth, flood of God's  
 rich - es poured on the earth. We are born from the dark - ness  
 and clothed in the light! We are bathed in the glo - ry of  
 God! God, bathed in the glo - ry of God!

**Verses**

1. Foun - tain of mer - cy, grace flow - ing free, streams of sal -  
 2. Here there is ha - ven, heal - ing and health, joy for the  
 3. Bread for our jour - ney God will pro - vide. Hope for all  
 4. Dark - ness is ban - ished, night turned a - way. Christ is our

1. va - tion, spill - ing with love from a tree!  
 2. ask - ing, love in a - bun - dance of wealth!  
 3. a - ges, Je - sus, com - pan - ion and guide!  
 4. sun - light, lift - ing and lead - ing our way!

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**\*WELCOME**

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.

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**\*KYRIE – “DEACONS PRAYER”**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace that is from above and for our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.



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



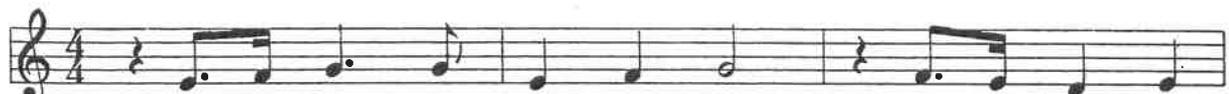
For this holy place and for those who in faith, devotion, and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help save, strengthen and defend us, O God by your grace.



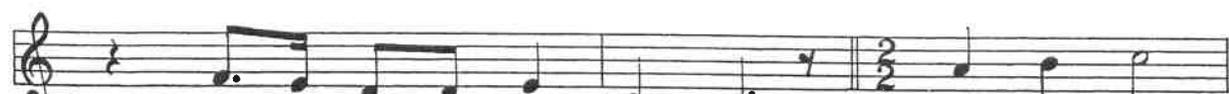
**\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS – “SONG OF PRAISE”**



Glo-ry be to God on high, praise to you most



Ho - ly! O Lord God, Heav'n - ly King



God the Fa - ther Al - might - y! O Lord God,



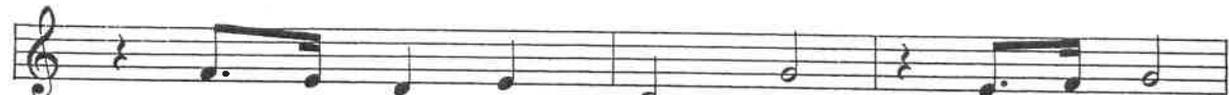
Lamb of God, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther:



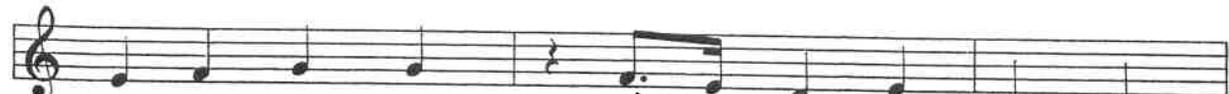
Christ who takes a - way our sin, have mer - cy up-



on us. For you on - ly Lord, O Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it, are most high



in the glo - ry of — God the Fa - ther.



Glo - ry be to God on high! A - men.

## \*“GREETING” AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.



Let us pray...

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' baptism you declared him to be your beloved Son and set him apart as your agent of grace for your creation. May we who are baptized into his life also be sent as agents of grace in your world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

The First Reading is from Isaiah the 42<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29



- <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- <sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup>The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor. *Refrain:*
- <sup>5</sup>The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- <sup>7</sup>The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the  
wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- <sup>8</sup>The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare. *Refrain:*
- <sup>9</sup>And in the temple of the Lord\*  
all are crying, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup>The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as King forevermore.
- <sup>11</sup>The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. *Refrain:*

## SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from Romans, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Al-le-lu-le, Alleluia”

*Refrain*

Sing praise to the Lord, all the earth!

Al - le - lu - le, Al - le - lu - ia!

Play mu - sic to praise his name!

Al - le - lu - le, Al - le - lu - ia! (VERSE)

#### VERSE

4. To Christ our heavenly king  
Give thanks for everything.
5. He came to show us how  
To live in the here and now.

**\* GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Pr. Paul



# HYMN OF THE DAY    Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - a - ted,      cho - sen by God.  
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished,      filled and re - freshed.  
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter,      all liv - ing things,  
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing,      we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly,      in mer - cy and love.  
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a Foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
 end - less O - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
 pre - cious Riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text and music: Cathy Skogen-Soldner  
 Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress



**\*APOSTLES CREED – “CREED”**



1. We all be - lieve— in one true  
 2. (And) we be - lieve— in Je - sus  
 3. (And) we in the Ho - ly Ghost be-



1. God — Mak - er of Earth — and Heav-  
 2. Christ, his Son our — Lord — and Sav-  
 3. lieve, who Grace and — Com - fort giv-



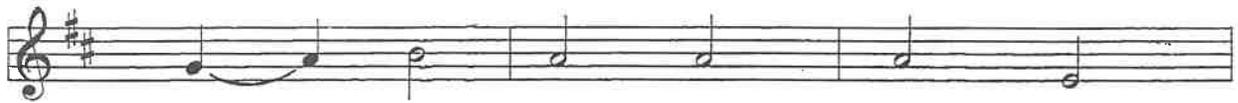
1. en, the Fa - ther who — to  
 2. ior, who with the Fa - ther  
 3. eth, and with the Fa - ther



1. us in love, hath the name of  
 2. e - qual might, — hath pow'r and  
 3. and the Son in e - ter - nal



1. chil - dren giv - en, He in  
 2. glo - ry for - ev - er. Born of  
 3. glo - ry liv - eth. Who all

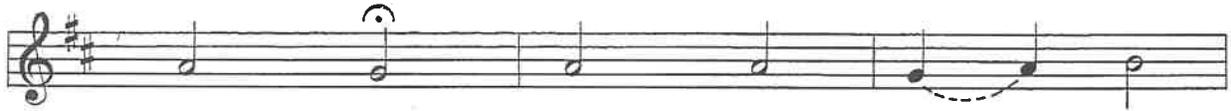


1. soul — and bod - y feeds us.  
 2. Mar - y Vir - gin Moth - er  
 3. [Chris - tian broth - ers]\* e - ven



1. All we need — his hand pro-  
 2. by the work - ing of the  
 3. keeps in u - ni - ty of

**\*APOSTLE'S CREED (continued)**



1. vides us, through all snares — and  
 2. Spir - it, he be - came — our  
 3. Spir - it, sins are tru - ly for-



1. per - ils leads us — sees no  
 2. el - der broth - er, that Heav'n we  
 3. giv - en through the — Blest Re-



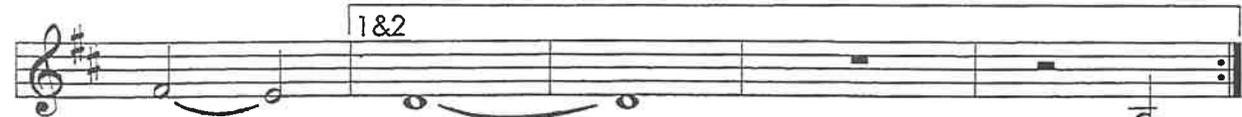
1. harm — be - tides us.  
 2. might — in - her - it.  
 3. deem - er's mer - it.



1. He cares for - us by day and  
 2. Was cru - ci - fied by [sin - ful and  
 3. All flesh shall rise a - gain and



1. night, all things are gov - erned by —  
 2. men,]\* and raised by God to life —  
 3. we shall live with God e - ter —



1. His — might. — And  
 2. a - gain. — And  
 3. nal —



3. ly. —

## \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

## \*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

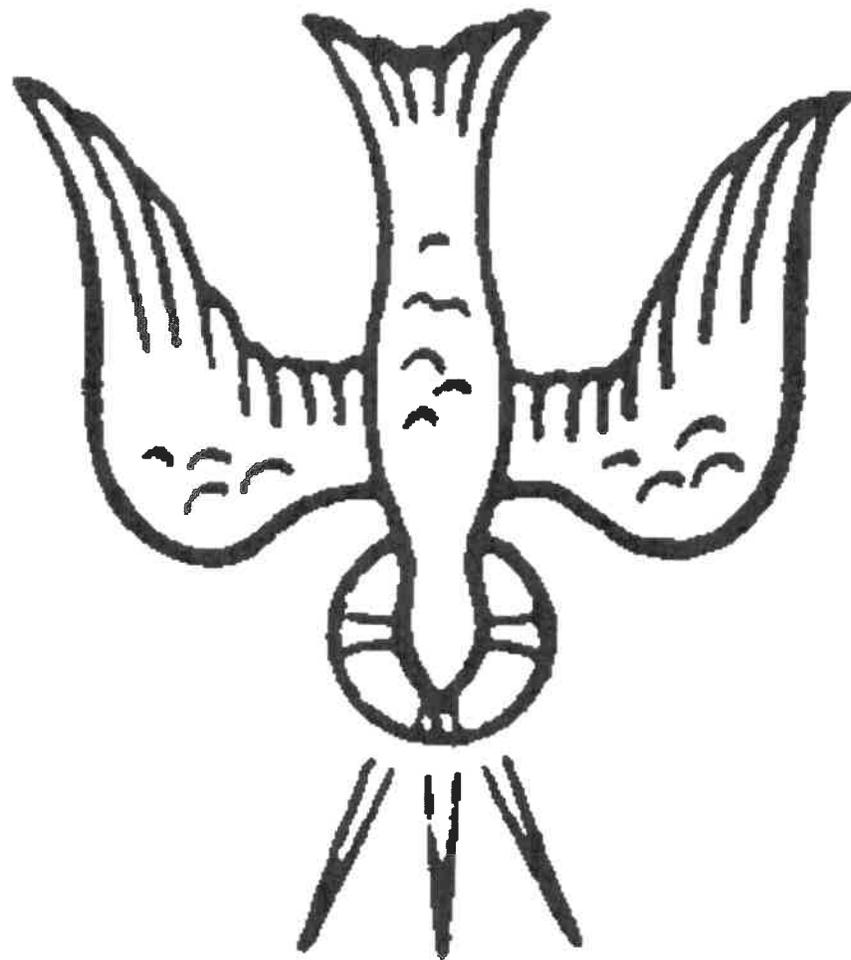
**And also with you.**

*(Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.)*

**OFFERTORY** "Peace Like a River" *Flute and Piano Duet Music by C. E. Walz*

## \*\*"CREATE IN ME"

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O,  
God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.—  
Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.— Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -  
hold me with your spir - it free.— Cre -  
ate in me a clean heart, O— God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me.—



# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

\*Let us pray,

**Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us; ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*“THANKSGIVING”

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Give thanks to the Lord.



It is truly right and proper at all times and places to give our thanks to you, Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, ever living God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heav'n, we laud and magnify your glorious name evermore praising You and saying:

**\*SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of  
Hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most high.  
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. —  
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho-  
san - nah in the high - est! —

Father, you are holy indeed; all your actions show your mercy and love. You made us in your image and set us over your creations. Even when we had fallen under the spell of sin, you did not abandon us but offer a covenant of blessing for all people.

You rescued your chosen people, Israel, as a sign of the great deliverance to come. You sent prophets to prepare the way. And when the time had come, you sent your Son; born of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. In word and wonder he proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. For us he was lifted up on the cross that we might know the power of his resurrection. And that we might no longer live for ourselves, but for him, he promised his Holy Spirit to those who believe to comfort and guide us and make us children of you, his Father.

Father, through him and in his name, we ask you fill us with your Holy Spirit so that, until he comes again, we may remember him as he commanded us:

## \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:

“Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## \*LORD’S PRAYER



1. Our Fa - ther who art in Heav -
2. (On) Earth as it is in Heav -
3. And for - give us our tres -
4. Lead us — not in - to temp-
5. (For) thine is the king - dom and the
6. (A-) men, A - men, it shall be



1. en, —
2. en, —
3. pass - es, } 1-6. Hal - low - ed be Thy Name.
4. ta - tion, }
5. pow - er, }
6. so, —



1. Thy — King - dom come, — Thy will be —
2. Give us this day our dai - ly
3. As we for - give those who tres - pass a-
4. But de - liv - er us from
5. And the glo - ry for - ev - er and
6. A - men, A - men, it shall be —

**\*LORD'S PRAYER (Continued)**



- |               |   |                     |    |     |       |
|---------------|---|---------------------|----|-----|-------|
| 1. done, —    | } | 1-6. Hal - low - ed | be | Thy | Name. |
| 2. bread, —   |   |                     |    |     |       |
| 3. gainst us, |   |                     |    |     |       |
| 4. e - vil,   |   |                     |    |     |       |
| 5. ev - er,   |   |                     |    |     |       |
| 6. so. —      |   |                     |    |     |       |



- |        |   |          |
|--------|---|----------|
| 2. On  | } | 6. Name. |
| 3.     |   |          |
| 4.     |   |          |
| 5. For |   |          |
| 6. A-  |   |          |

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.  
 When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.



**\*AGNUS DEI – “LAMB OF GOD”**

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the  
sin of the world, - have mer - cy on us.

Christ, O Lamb of God,  
who takes a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on  
us.

Christ, O Lamb of  
God, who takes a - way the sin of the world, -  
give us your peace.

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ given for you.

**Amen.**

The blood of Christ shed for you.

**Amen.**

# COMMUNION HYMN Taste and See

\*NUNC DIMITTIS – “SIMEON’S SONG”

Lord, now send your ser - vants forth in  
peace ac - cord - ing to your word.—  
Here we have seen your sav - ing  
work done in the sight of all [man -  
kind, to those in dark - ness a  
prom - ise bright, to be - liev - ers a liv - ing  
hope.— Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther,—  
and to the Son,—  
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in  
the be - gin - ing,— is now and ev - er  
shall be,— world with - out end.  
A - men.—

**\*“BLESSING”**

The Lord be with you.



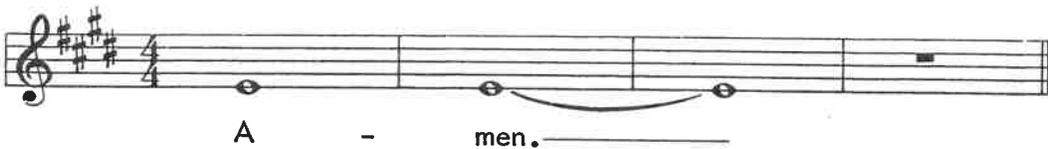
Bless we the Lord.



The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

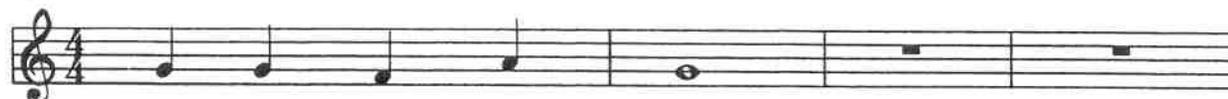
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



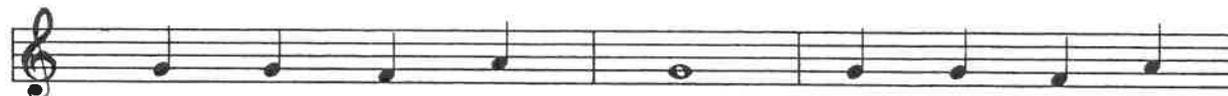
*Blessings*

\*"SEND US FORTH IN PEACE"

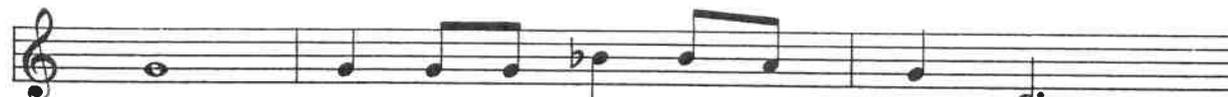
Lord we have your peace.



Lord, we have your peace.



Lord, we have your peace. Lord, we have your



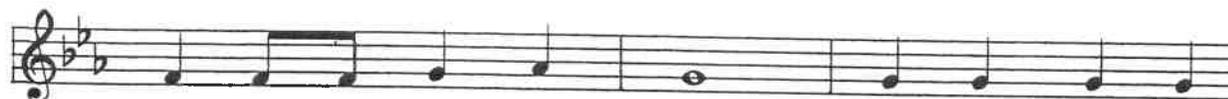
peace. Just as you said we have heard it,



Just as you lived we have felt it. Lord we have your



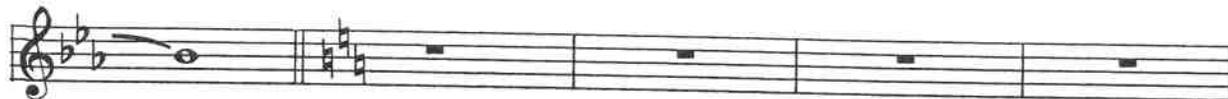
peace. Sus - tain us in your peace, O Lord, as we



go to our sep' - rate worlds. Keep this peace with



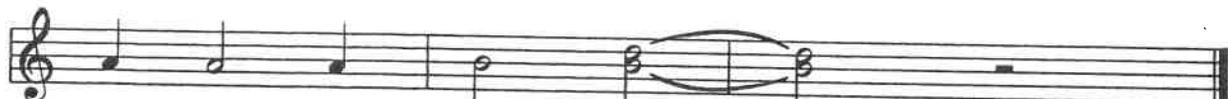
us as we try to love in our trou - bled worlds.—



Send us forth in peace.



Send us forth in peace to be a light to show your



beau - ty for - ev - er.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Chicago Folk Service by Art Gorman, Neil A. Kjos Music Co. Publisher Park Ridge, IL 60068

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### SERVING THE FAMILY OF FAITH

#### This Week: 1/11

Reader: Zan Bramley

Communion: Jerry & Zan Bramley

Fellowship: Sandra Humphrey

Usher: Ken Schiess

#### Next Week: 1/18

Reader: Jerry Bramley

Communion:

Fellowship: Deb Ebert

Usher: Jerry Bramley

Birthdays: 1/13 Tuesday, Pr. Paul Ebert

#### Reminder: TODAY Congregational meeting after Fellowship.

There are MANY spots available to serve Faith for Jan. and Feb.!)  
Deb will be making bulletins ahead for the next 3 weeks THIS week,  
so would like to be able to fill out who is serving each week so  
everyone knows. **PLEASE HELP.**

1/18 Installation of Officers after Worship

1/22 Thursday morn at 10:00 Women's Bible Study at Faith.

1/22 – 2/1 Pr. Paul and Deb will be gone.