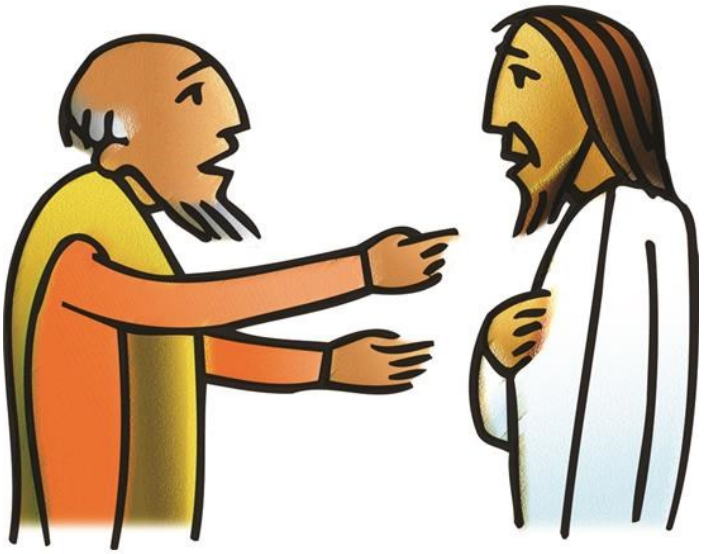
concordia church
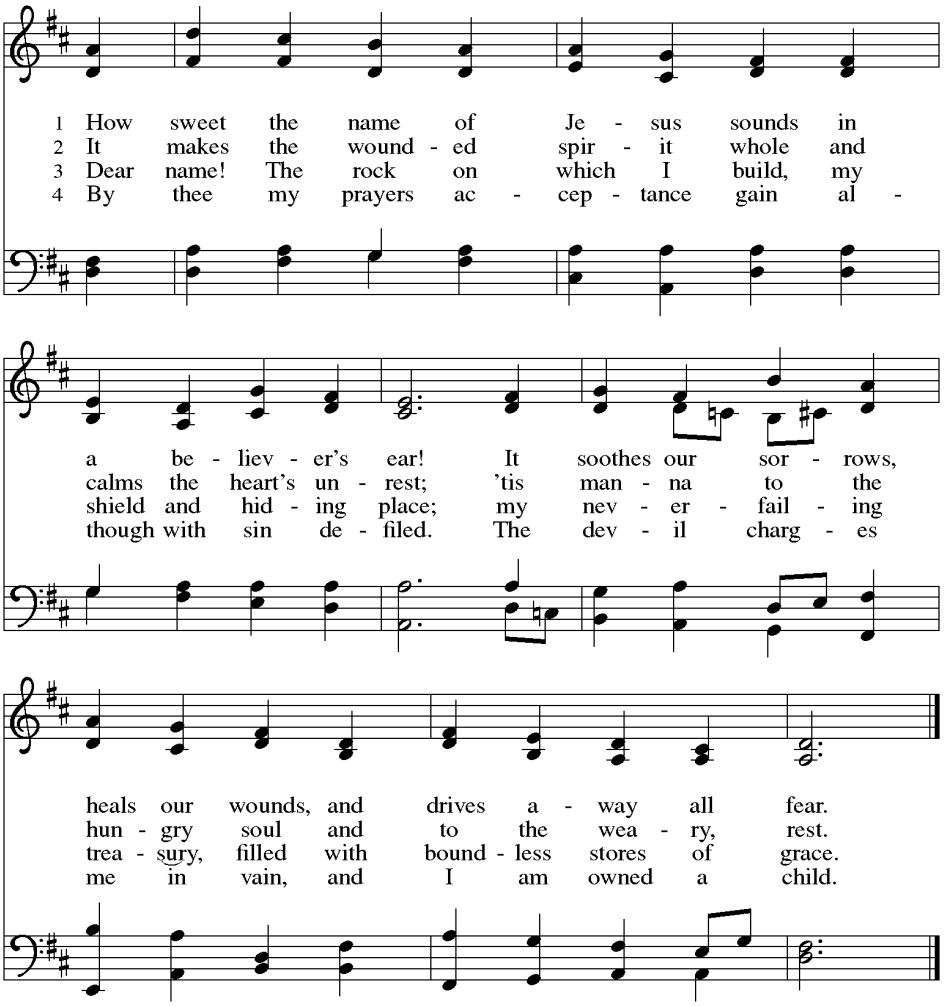


Second Sunday of Epiphany

January 18th, 2026

Prelude "*Adoration for Organ*" by Florence B. Price

Opening Hymn ELW #620 "*How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*"



5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

6 How weak the effort of my heart,
how cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

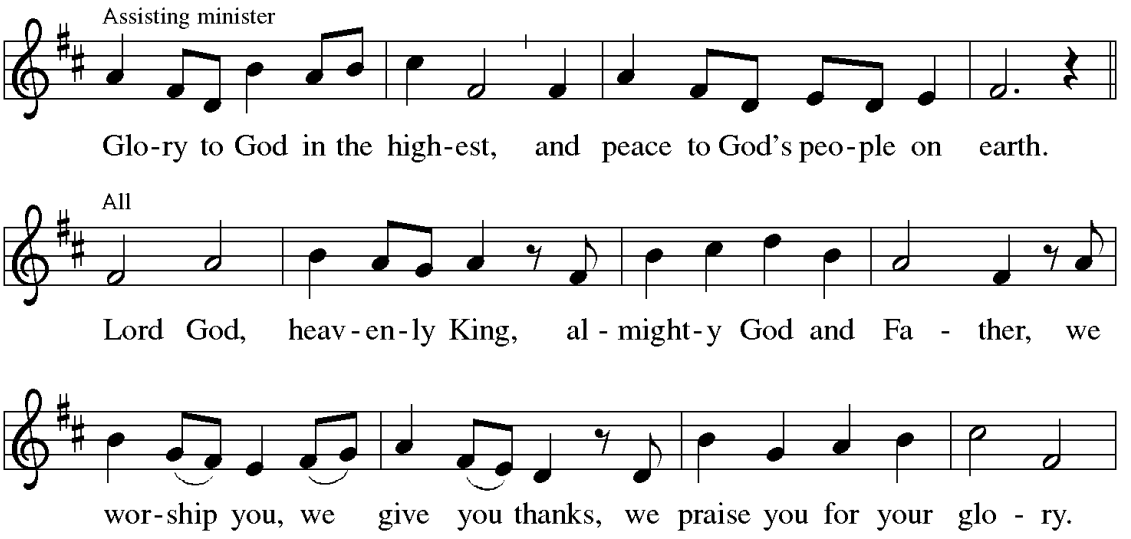
7 Till then I would thy love proclaim
with every fleeting breath;
and may the music of thy name
refresh my soul in death!

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day
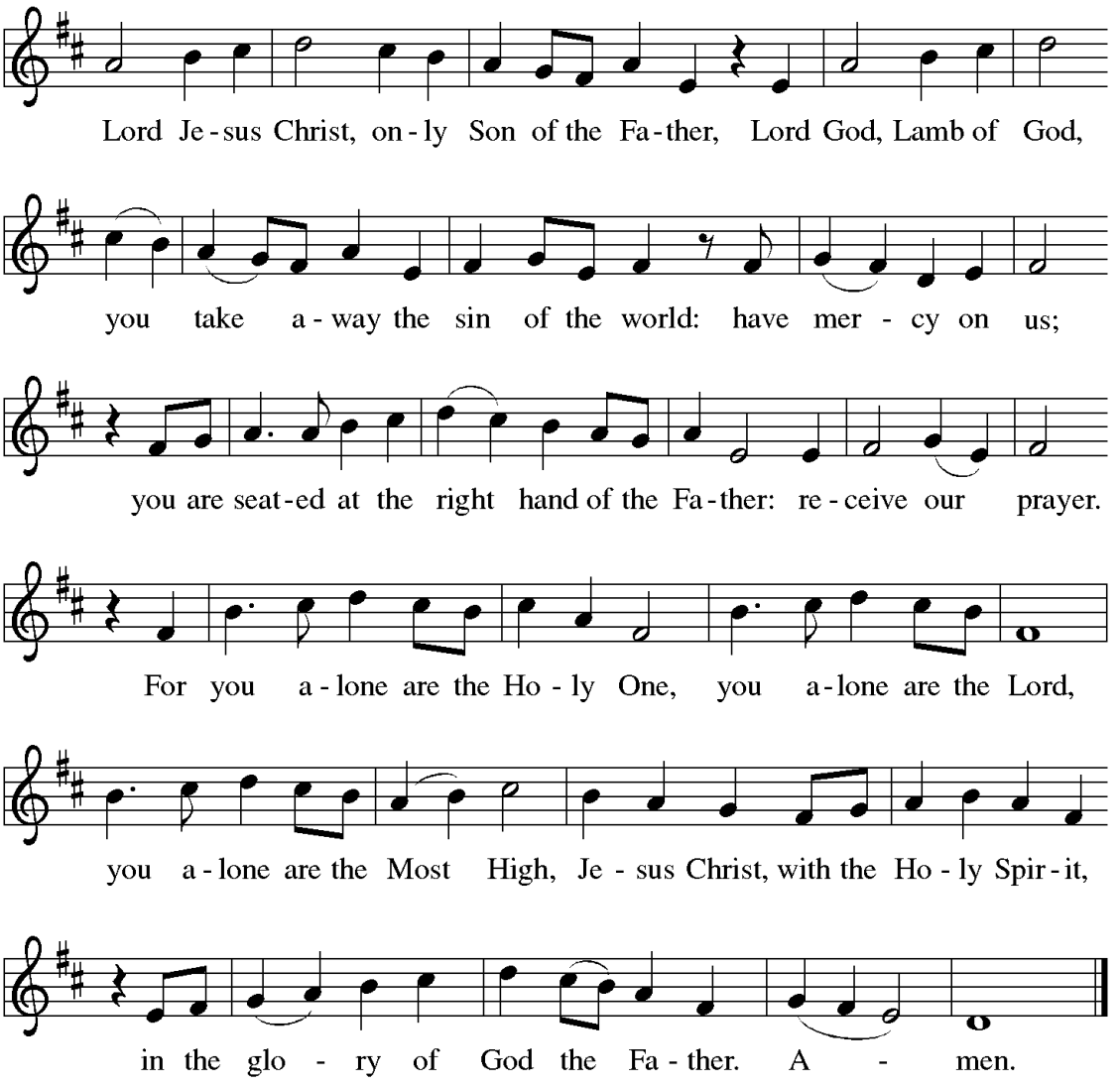
Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your church firm on the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Canticle of Praise



...continued on next page

Canticle of Praise cont'...



First Reading — Acts 4:8-13

8 Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to [the authorities,] "Rulers of the people
and elders, 9 if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to
someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, 10 let it
be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing
before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you
crucified, whom God raised from the dead. 11 This Jesus is
'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'
12 "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given
among mortals by which we must be saved."
13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they
were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as
companions of Jesus.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19

Choir sings antiphon & odd verses
Congregation sings the bold verses

R: My God, my rock, you are worthy of praise.

1 I love you, O | LORD my strength,
O LORD my stronghold, my crag, | and my haven;
2 **my God, my rock in whom I | put my trust,**
my shield, the horn of my salvation, | and my refuge. R
3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy | to be praised,
and so shall I be saved | from my enemies.
4 **The breakers of death rolled | over me,**
and the torrents of oblivion made | me afraid.
5 The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me,
and the snares of death were | set for me.
6 **I called upon the LORD in my distress and cried out to**
my | God for help.
From the heavens the LORD heard my voice; m
cry | reached God's ears. R
16 You reached down from on | high and grasped me;
you drew me out | of great waters.

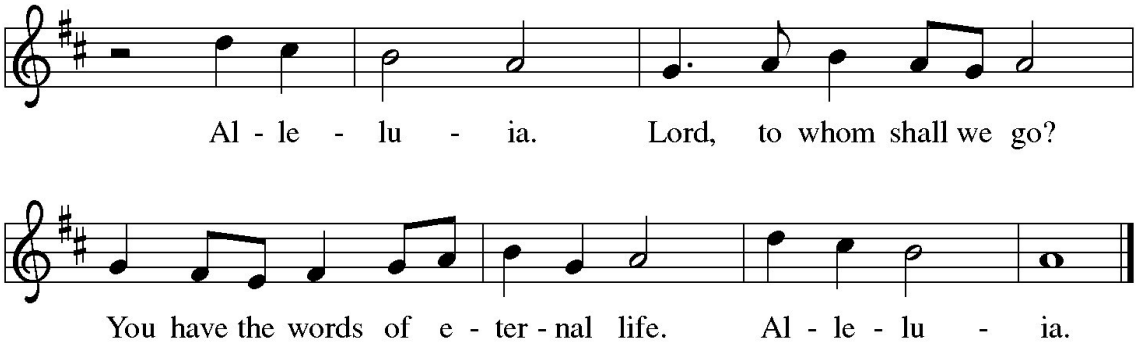
Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19 cont' ...

17 **You delivered me from my strong enemies and from those**
who | hated me, for they were too might- | y for me.
18 They confronted me in the day of | my disaster;
but you, LORD, were | my support.
19 **You brought me out into an | open place;**
you rescued me because you delight- | ed in me. R

Second Reading

1 I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 and all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"*



P: The Gospel according to Matthew
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel — Matthew 16:13-19

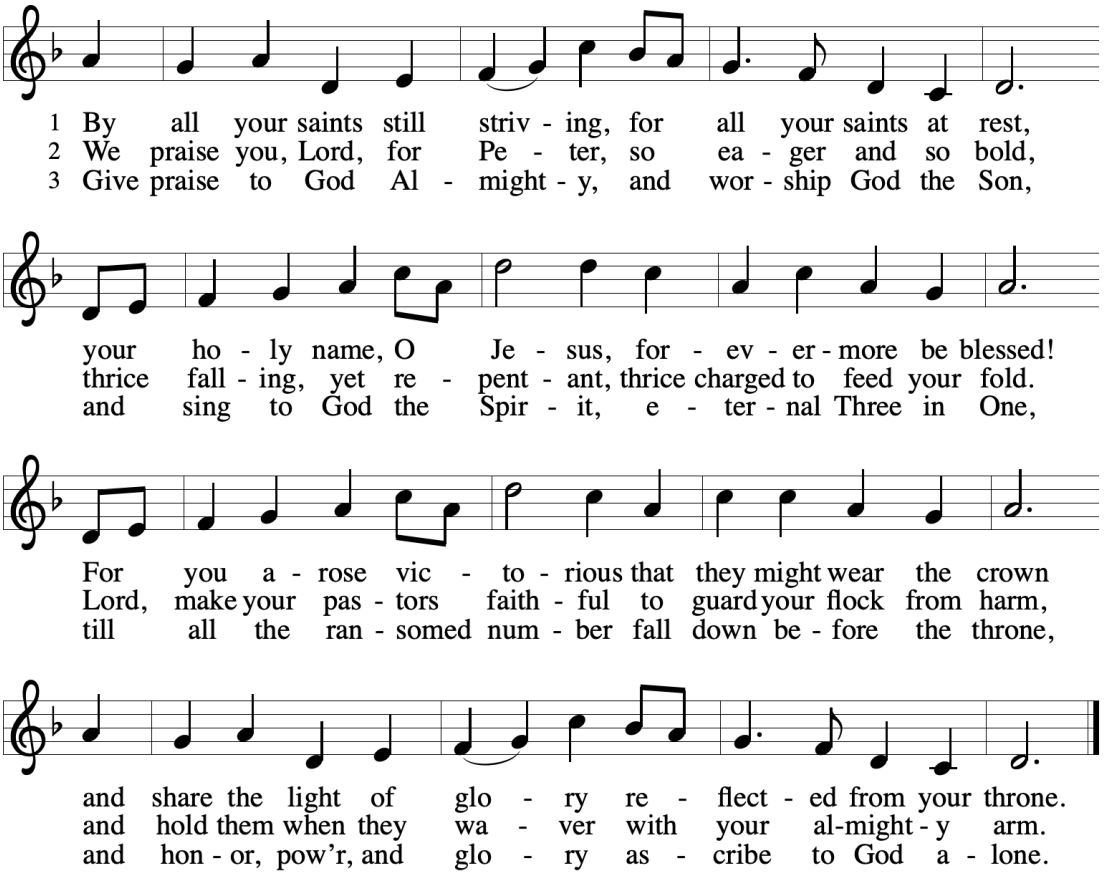
13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say
John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the
prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter
answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered
him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed
this to you but my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this
rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I
will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth
will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in
heaven."
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

Sermon — Rev. Keith Forni

Hymn of the Day

ELW #420 *"By All Your Saints"*



Apostle's Creed

C: 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.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Remembering the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us offer our prayers to God. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Blessed be God, who gave us the light of the world and who desires that all people should come to know Christ's love and grace. Fill our hearts with your radiance and truth that we might walk as children of light. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Praise to you, almighty God and Father, you proclaimed Christ your Son at his baptism in the waters of the Jordan. Make your church holy that we who have been born again by the power of the Holy Spirit may live as witnesses to your grace and love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, you call us to witness to Christ's love in our community. We give you thanks for Concordia Place and the children, teens, and families we serve; for Concordia Music Ministry and the musicians and neighbors we bring together to experience God's love through inspiring music; for Concordia Ministries and our welcoming outreach to newly arriving migrants. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Lord God, through the ministry of your Son we have received grace upon grace. Bring light to those who dwell in darkness, joy to those in sorrow, hope to those in fear and despair. We pray especially for: (*named listed in insert)*, and for those we name before you or silently in our hearts: Ian, Dee, Margaret, Mike, Joanne, Jocelyn, Dennis, Bernie, Mary, Chase, Aaron, Jack, Donna, Mark, and Rich...Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of light and truth, whose love knows no bounds in your Son, Jesus. Bring us to a deeper understanding of the Gospel, help us to accept the challenge of Christian living, and lead us to the joy of faith in the family of your church. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
C: Amen.

The Peace

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

You are invited to share the sign of peace with others.

The Offering

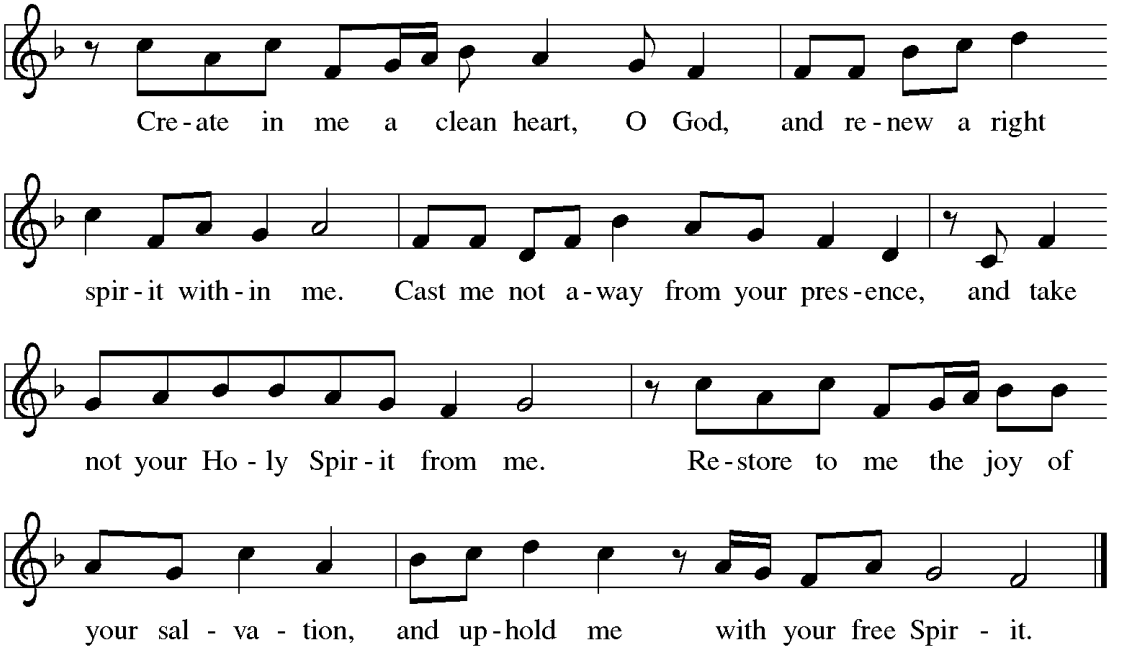
We encourage you to use this time for reflection & gratitude as we prepare for communion.

Thank you for supporting our ministries with our financial gifts. Scan the QR code to the left to easily make a one-time gift or establish a recurring gift.

Offertory Anthem

"*Lift Every Voice and Sing*"
Text by James Weldon Johnson
Music by J. Rosamund Johnson
Festival Arrangement by Roland M. Carter

Offertory Hymn ELW #186 "*Create in Me a Clean Heart*"



Offertory Prayer

A: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.



Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

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

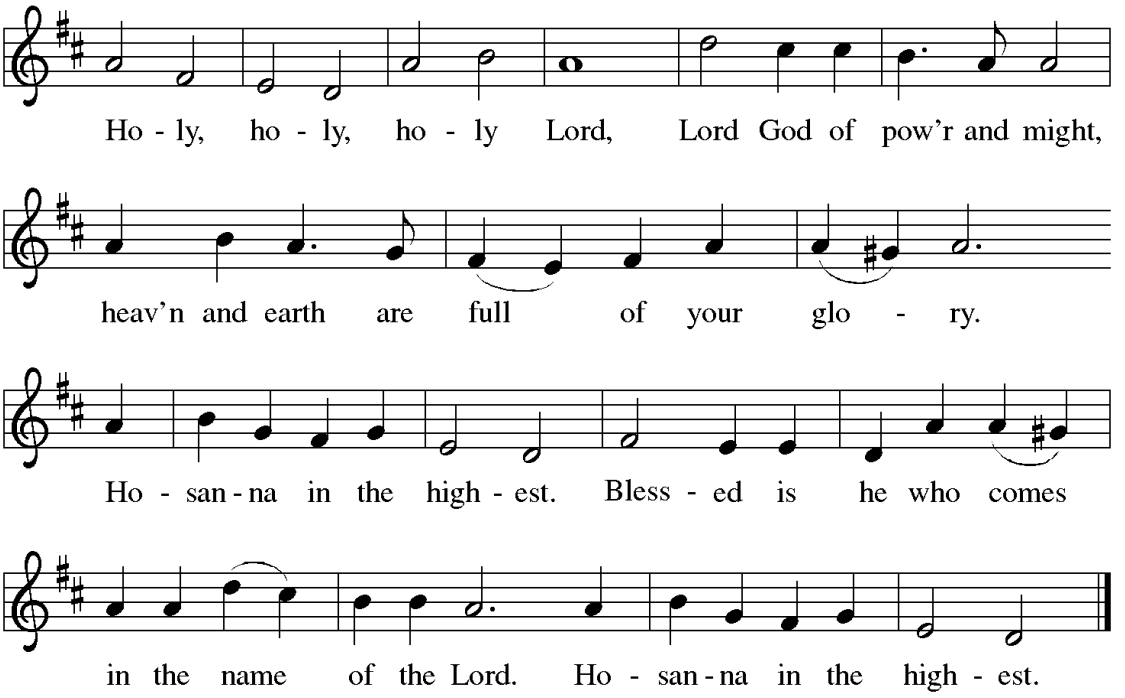
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks…

...with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Sanctus



P: Holy are you, Heavenly Father. In the fullness of time you revealed yourself in your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Through him we are saved and baptized into your service.

P: In his baptism and in his table fellowship he took his place with sinners. He preached good news to the poor, proclaimed release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, set free the oppressed, and announced that the time had come when you would save your people.

P: On the night his disciples betrayed him he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

P: When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

P: Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may be joined to you in the presence of his living Christ; be one body in him, and look forward to his coming in final victory.

P: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

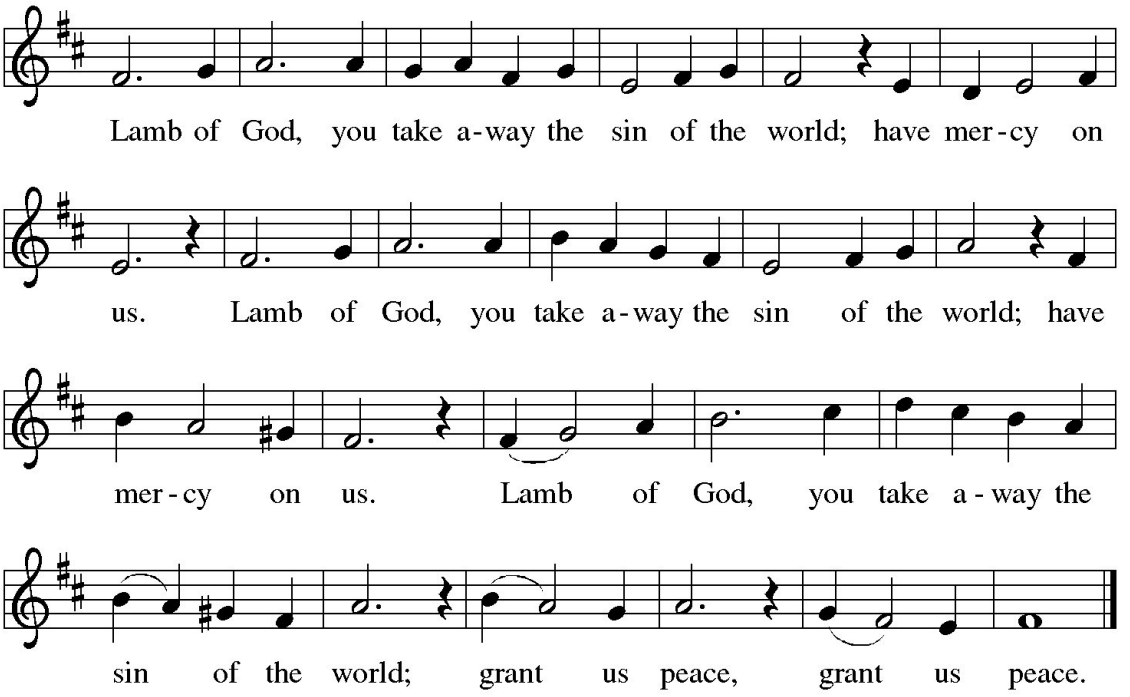
Communion Invitation

We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by continuous table around the altar, and you are asked to take a place as openings appear.



Communion Hymn "*Lamb of God*"
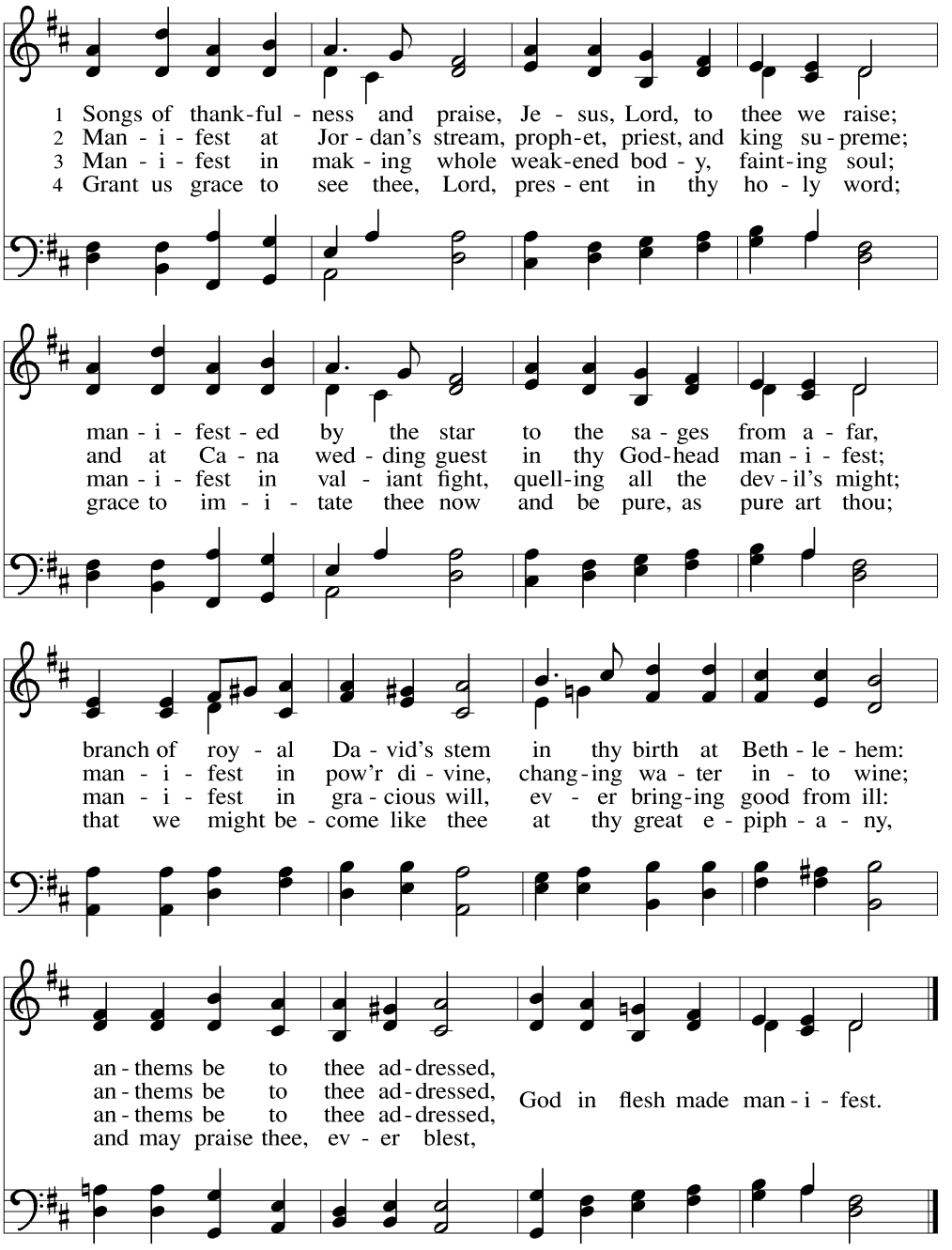


P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ELW #310 *"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"*



Announcements

Benediction

P: 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.

Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude "*Festal March*" by Florence B. Price

Today's celebrants:

Pastor: Rev. Keith Forni
Deacon: Kim Baratta
Lector: Marne Turner
Greeter: Veronica McMillion
Song Leaders: Marisa Buchheit, Jade Dasha, Benjamin Burney, Avery Sujkowski
Choir members: Richard Gaul, Dan Lantvit, Mary-Ann Lupa, Betsy Ries, Wilma Stevens, Linda Storbeck
Organist & Choir Director: Paul Dykstra

Announcements

2025 Giving statements

Giving statements for 2025 went out this past week by email. Please contact Desirae (dcontreras@concordiafaith.org) if you did not receive yours. If you have questions about your giving statement, please connect with either Desirae or Ruth Thiede (rjthiede@sbcglobal.net).

Blankets needed

We are currently looking for donations of new or gently used blankets for some families in our community. If you have gently used blankets at home (free of stains or tears) that you are willing to share, or if you are able to purchase new blankets, we have many local families who could make good use of a warm blanket this winter. Please bring any donations to the church. If you have any questions, reach out to Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org.

Crib wanted

A family in Concordia Place's Home Visiting program is in need of a safe and appropriate crib for their infant. We are seeking a crib that is in good condition and meets current safety standards. If you have a crib you'd be willing to donate, please reach out to Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org or Gabriela Servin, Director on Seeley, at gservin@concordiaplace.org. Additionally, if you know of someone who may have a crib to donate, please share this message with them. We appreciate your support!

Wheelchair wanted

A church member is in need of a wheelchair; if anyone has one that they are willing to donate, please reach out to Desirae or Pastor Zook.

Sunday School resumes

Sunday School is back! All children are invited to Sunday School this week - Sunday, January 18th - during the worship service. The lesson will focus on the Parable of the Lost Sheep and will teach children how God never stops looking for us. Children will hear the children's message with Pastor Zook and will then join their teachers in the gym for the lesson. Children ages 4-11 years old are invited!

Council Meeting

The next council meeting is Sunday, January 25th following worship. Council members are encouraged to mark this date on their calendars and plan to attend.

Piano Benches - FREE!

Concordia Church has 1 more piano bench that is free to a good home! We no longer have need for it and would love to see it get some use. Please speak with Pastor Zook or Desirae if you are interested in one of them.

Concordia Concerts presents

concordia church
3855 N Seeley Ave
Chicago

Sunday Concert





Dana Brown & Paul Dykstra

duo pianists

performing works by J.S. Bach, Robert Schumann, Darius Milhaud, & William Bolcom

Featuring Cara Schlecker Ketter, Concertmaster; Fiona Chisholm, Horn; and Midtown Strings.

SUNDAY
JANUARY 25
2pm

Free admission

concordiafaith.org/concerts

Bringing our neighbors together to experience God's love through inspiring music.



Musically yours!

St. Valentine's Day

Concert feat. Très Belle with Pianist Paul Dykstra

Friday, February 13th - 7 PM

Tickets: $25 - kids free (including 1 drink)	Valentine's sweets and treats included!

Concordia Church
3855 N. Seeley

concordia church

Important Dates to note:

- January 18th: Sunday School during 10am worship
- January 25th: Council Meeting at 11am
  Concert at 2:00 pm
- February 1st: Sunday School during 10am worship
- February 13th: Valentine's Day Gala at 7pm with Tres Belle
- February 15th: Sunday School during 10am worship
- February 18th: Ash Wednesday service at 7pm

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Support the **ministries of Concordia Church** through your offerings. There are multiple ways for you to give:

1) Mobile: Text 'Concordia' to 73256 and follow the link or scan the QR code here
2) Online: Visit www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
3) Via cash or check left in the offering plate or mailed to the church at:

   3855 N Seeley Ave
   Chicago, IL 60618

Copyright Information:

Below is a list of all the songs that we are using in today's liturgy with their copy right information located with them.

Opening Hymn **ELW #620 "*How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*"**

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Music: ST. PETER, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877

Hymn of the Day **ELW #420 "By All the Saints"**

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

Offertory Hymn **ELW #186 "*Create in Me a Clean Heart*"**

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Closing Hymn **ELW #310 "*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*"**

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Notes on the Liturgy:

1. All liturgical music is from ELW, Setting 4
2. The Liturgy is printed from **The Evangelical Lutheran Worship** and is used with permission.
3. The offertory prayer, introduction to the prayers and conclusion are taken from **Sundays and Seasons**, Augsburg Fortress, 2019, and used with permission: license number 23952.
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concordia church

Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

www.concordiafaith.org

773-281-1225

Concordia on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley

Sunday mornings:

10:00am Worship (In-person & virtual options)

Join the 10:00am livestream on Sunday mornings or view recordings of our past services on our YouTube channel.

YouTube **Concordia Church Chicago**

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Holy Communion happens at every service and is open to all baptized.

Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall; exit the sanctuary through the back and follow the stairwell downstairs.

Masks and hand sanitizer are located in the back of the sanctuary should you need either.

Questions? Contact Desirae, Parish Admin, at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org

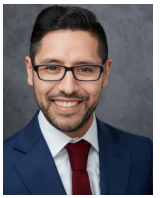
Church Staff Contact Information



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nzook@concordiafaith.org
773-281-1225



Desirae Contreras, Parish Administrator
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Marisa Mladenovic, Music Director
mbuchheit@concordiafaith.org



Paul Dykstra, Organist & Choir Director
pdykstra@concordiafaith.org



Matt Flanagan, Concert Operations
mflanagan@concordiafaith.org



Jennifer Phillips, Chaplain, CIP
jphillips@concordiafaith.org