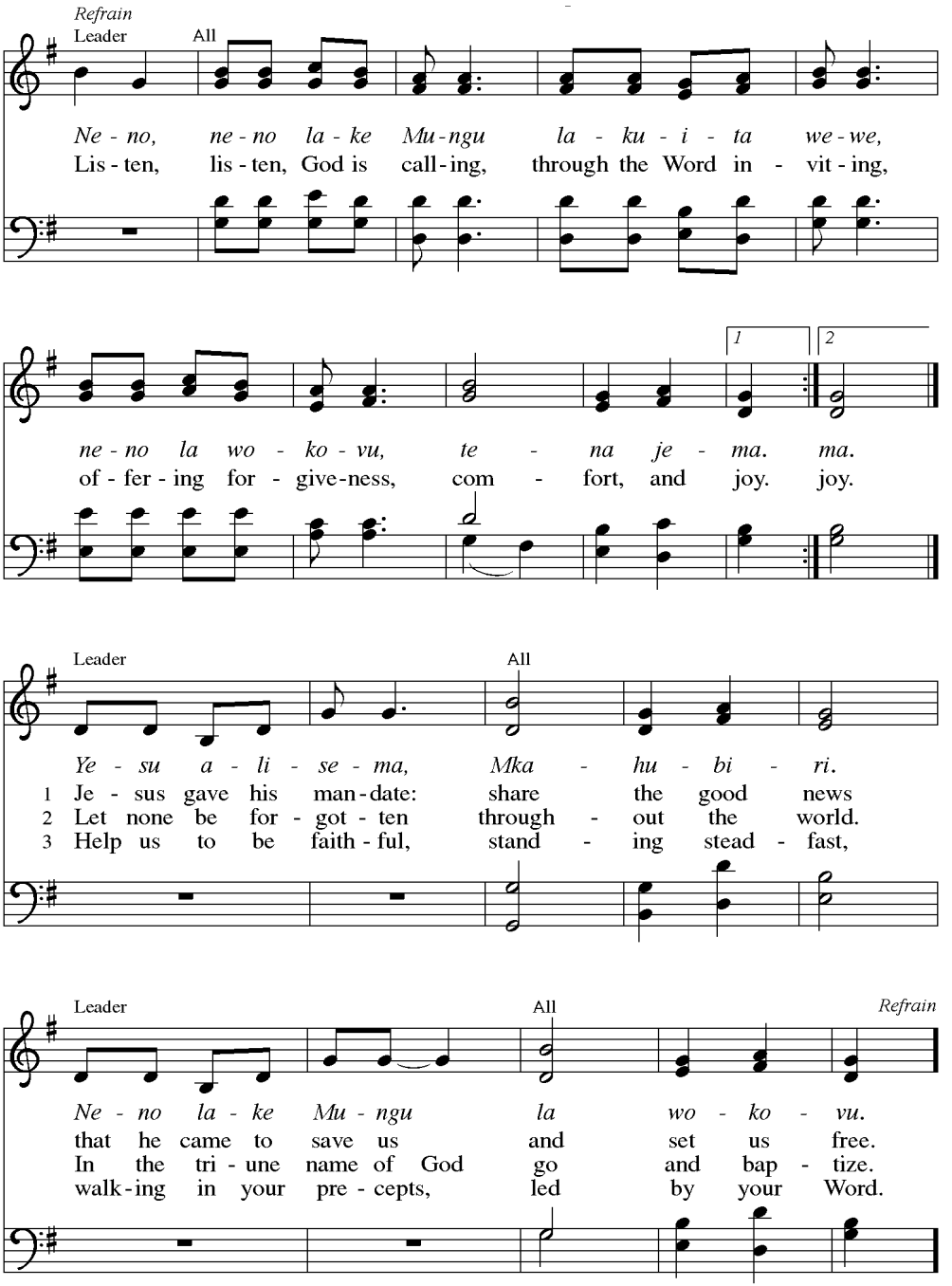concordia church



Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25th, 2026

Prelude *"Andante for Organ" by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*
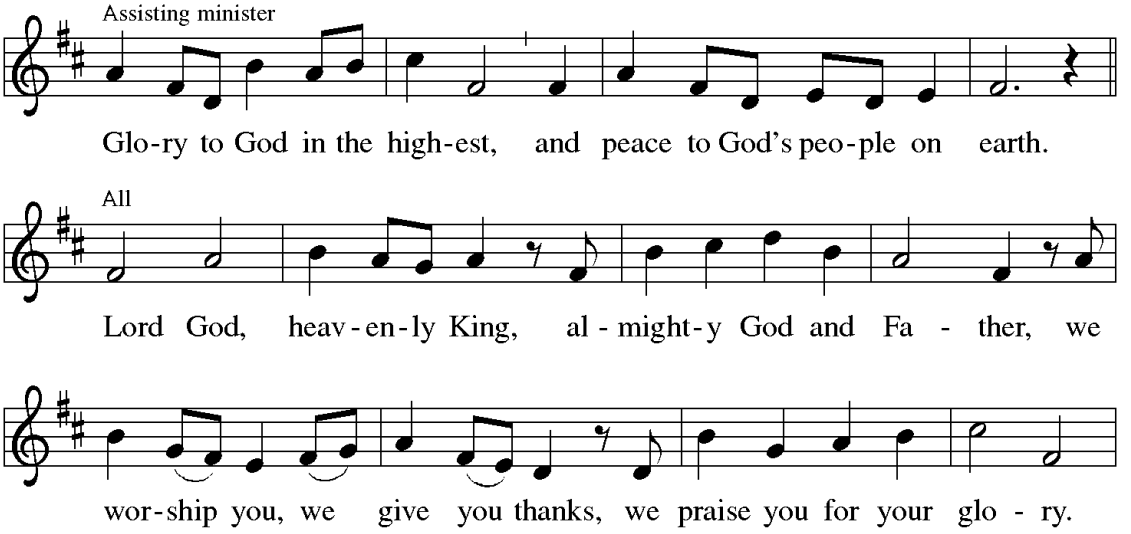


P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day
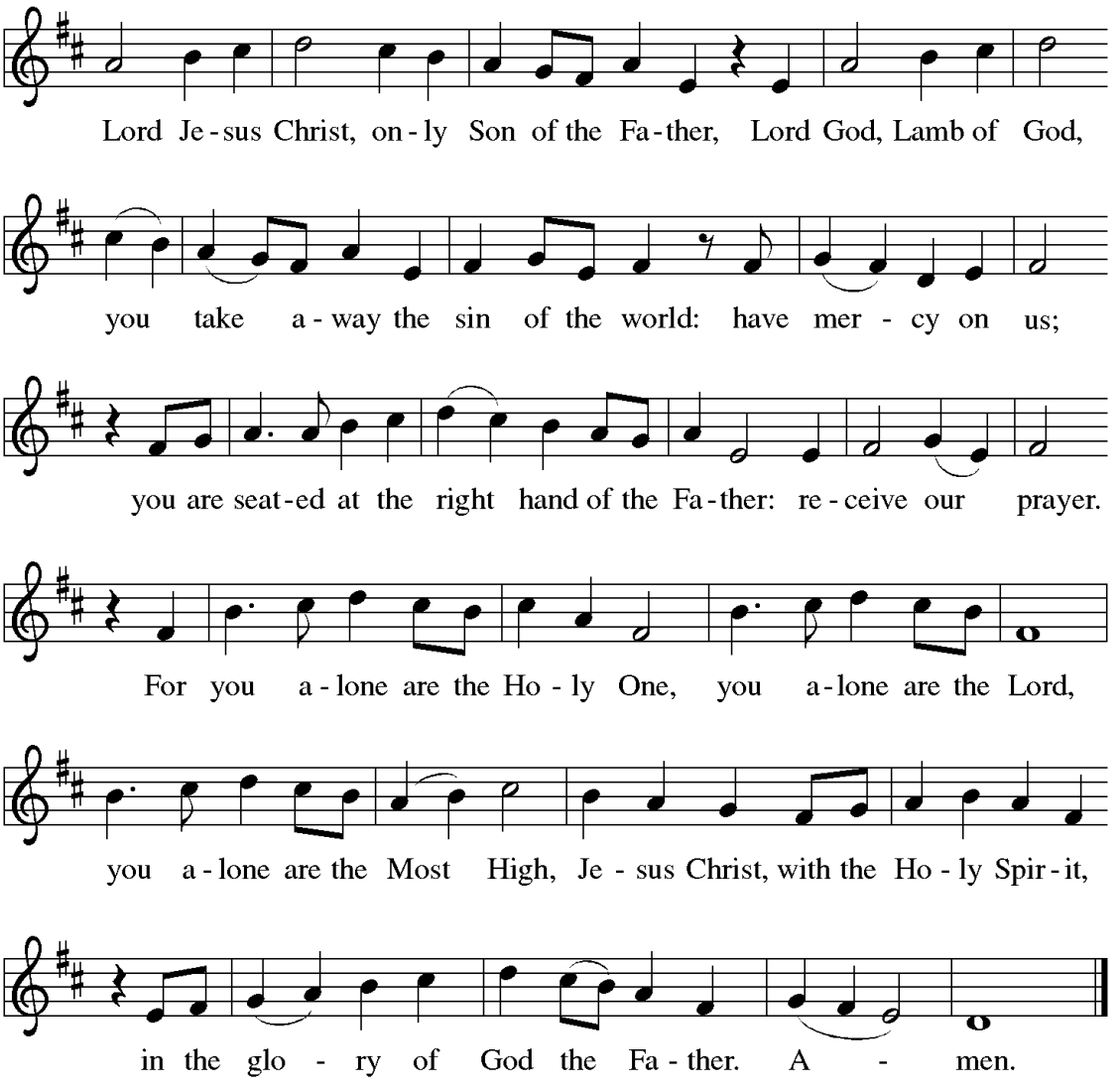
P: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Canticle of Praise



...continued on next page

Canticle of Praise cont'...



First Reading — Isaiah 9:1-4

1 There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former
time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of
Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land
beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
3 You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
4 For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Choir sings antiphon & odd verses
Congregation sings the bold verses

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

[1] The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?
[4] **One thing I ask of the Lord; one | thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God | in the temple.
[5] For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.
[6] **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.**
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the Lord. R

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

7 Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.
8 **My heart speaks your message— | "Seek my face."**
Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.
9 Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation. **R**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

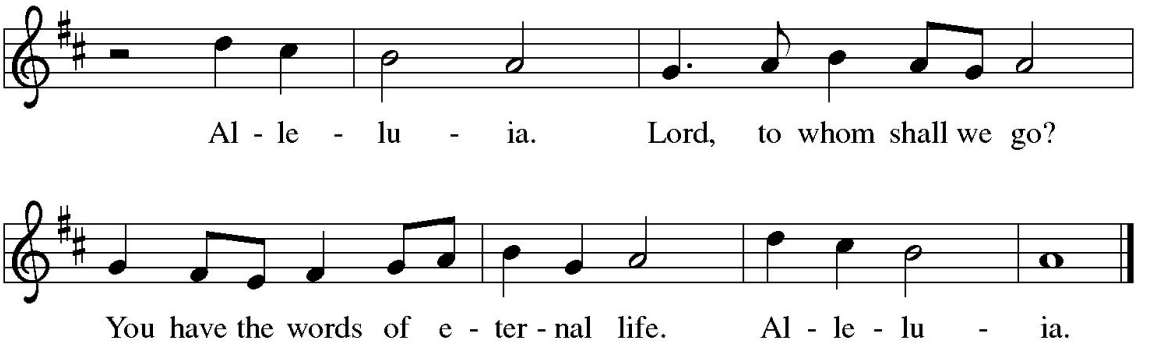
10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. 11 For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12 What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Temple Talk Grace Araya, CEO Concordia Place

Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"*



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

Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. 13
He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of
Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah
might be fulfilled:
15 "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
16 the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."
17 From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has
come near."
18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called
Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. 19
And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." 20
Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 As he went from there, he
saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat
with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately
they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Continued on next page...

Gospel cont' … **Matthew 4:12-23**

[23] Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.
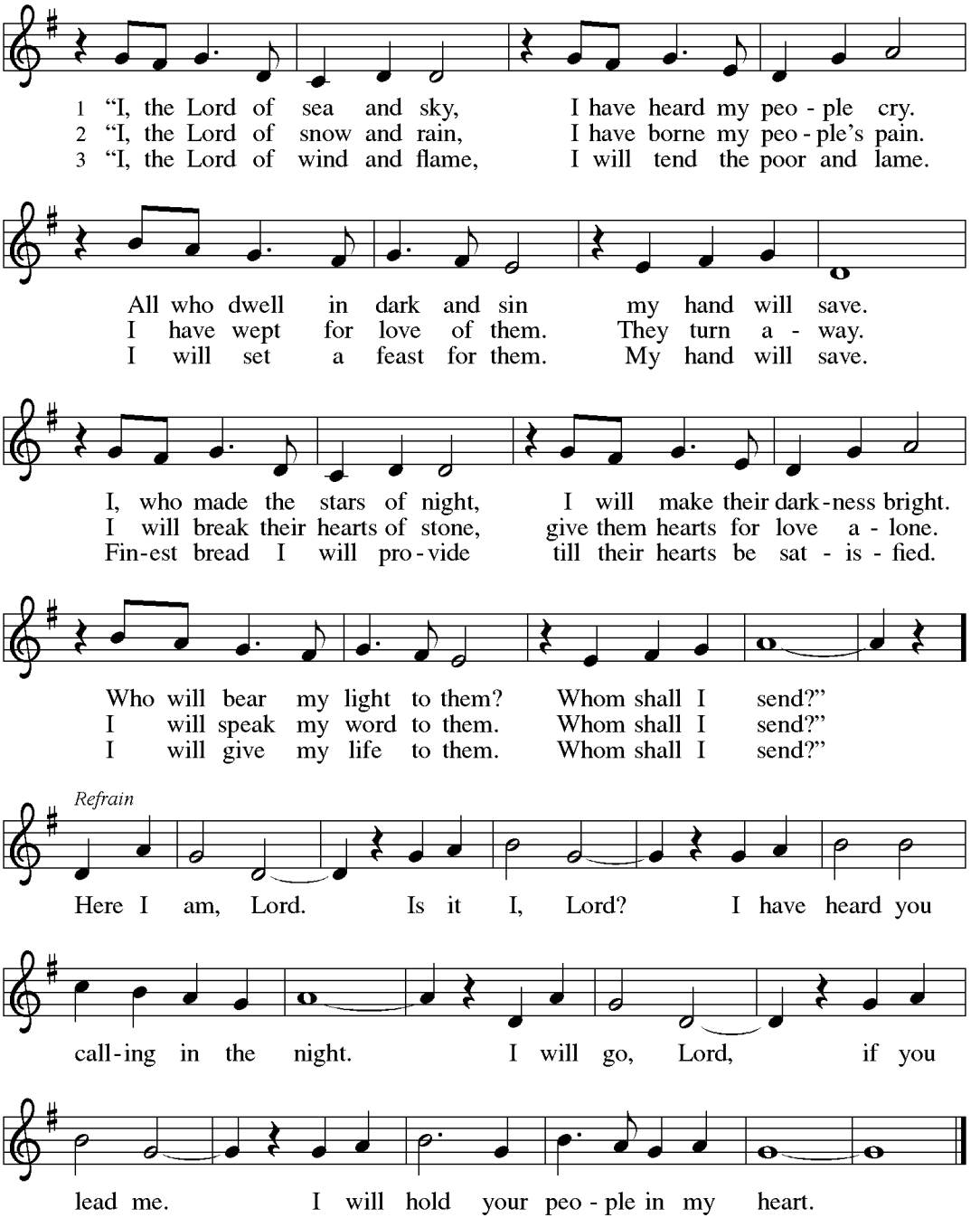
Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

Sermon **Rev. Nicholas Zook**



Hymn of the Day

ELW #574 *"Here I am, Lord"*

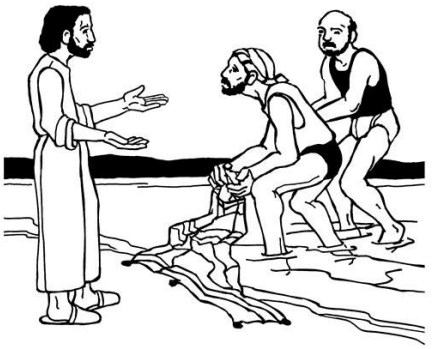


Apostle's Creed

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. We give you thanks for our baptism into Christ, we who have been born again by the power of the Holy Spirit. May we 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

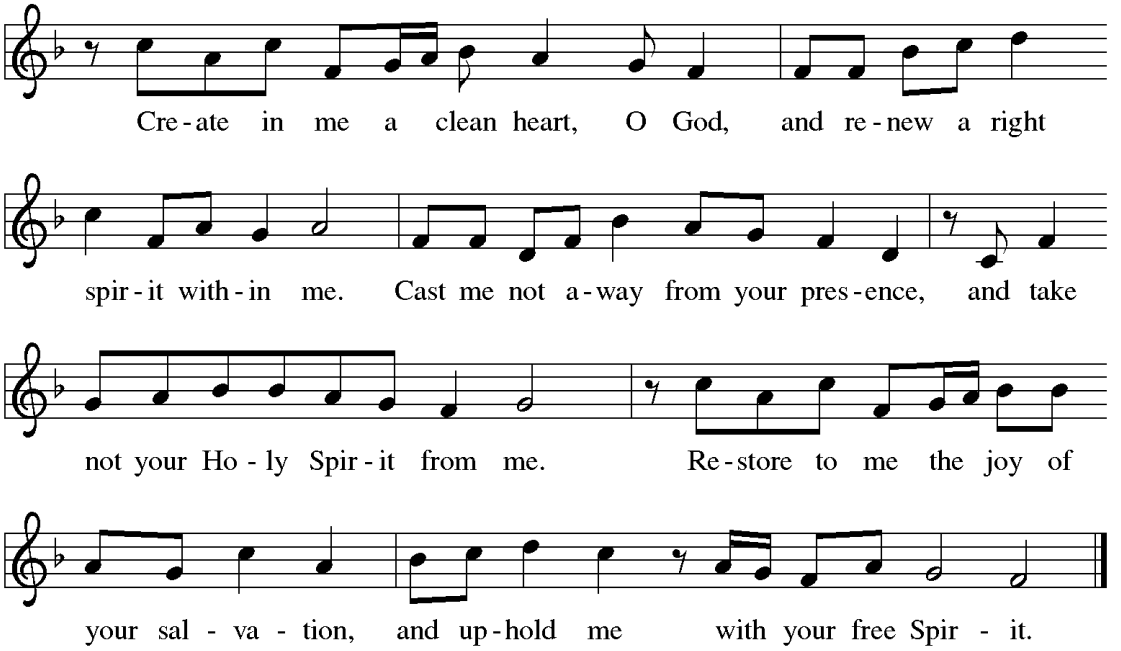
We encourage you to use this time for reflection & gratitude as we prepare for communion.

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

"*Light of Peace*"
words and music by Joel Raney

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.

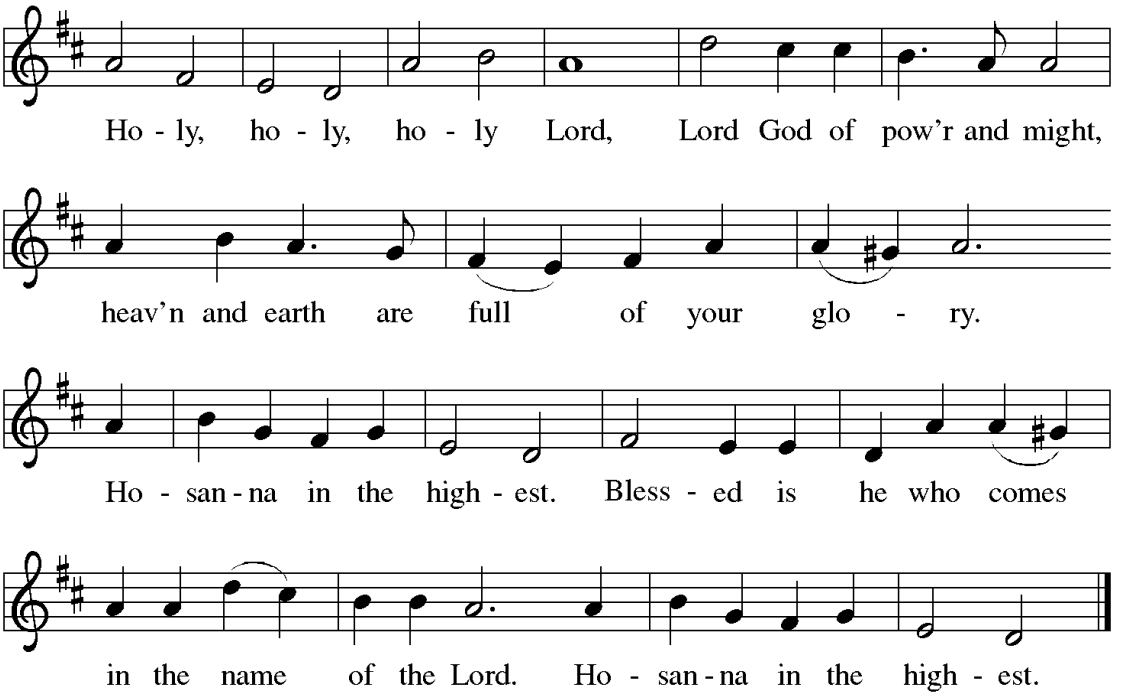
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.

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.

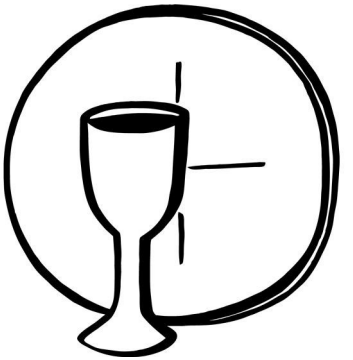
In his baptism and in his table fellowship he took his place with sinners. He preached good news to the poor, proclaimed release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, set free the oppressed, and announced that the time had come when you would save your people.

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."

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.

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.

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.
C: **Amen.**



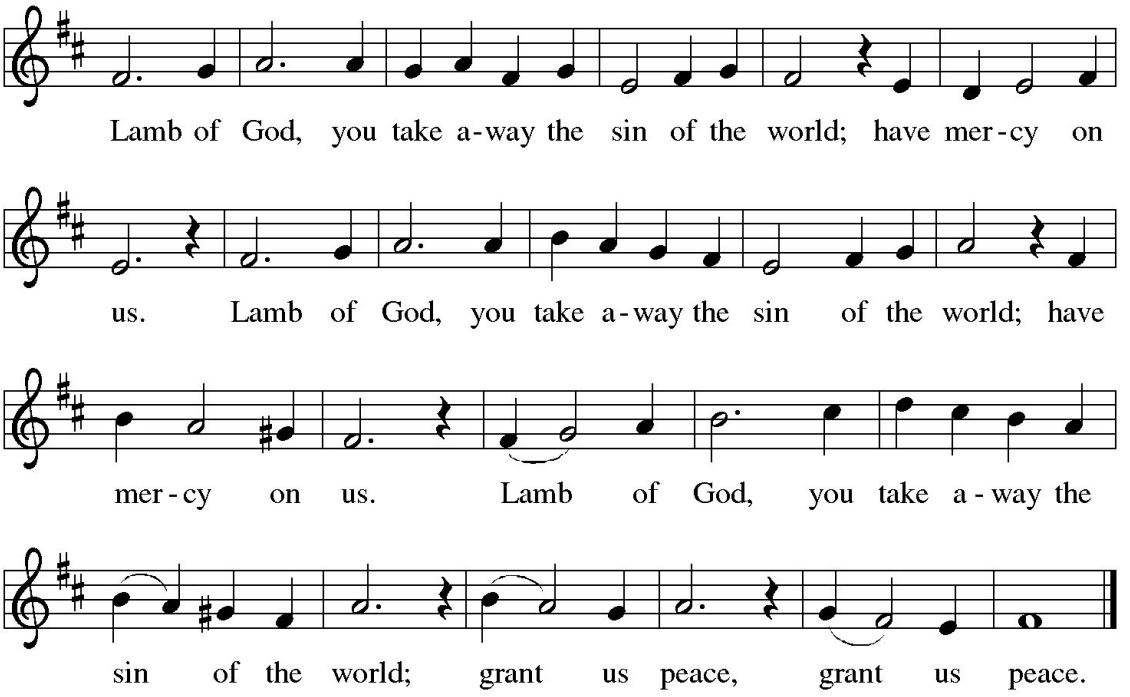
C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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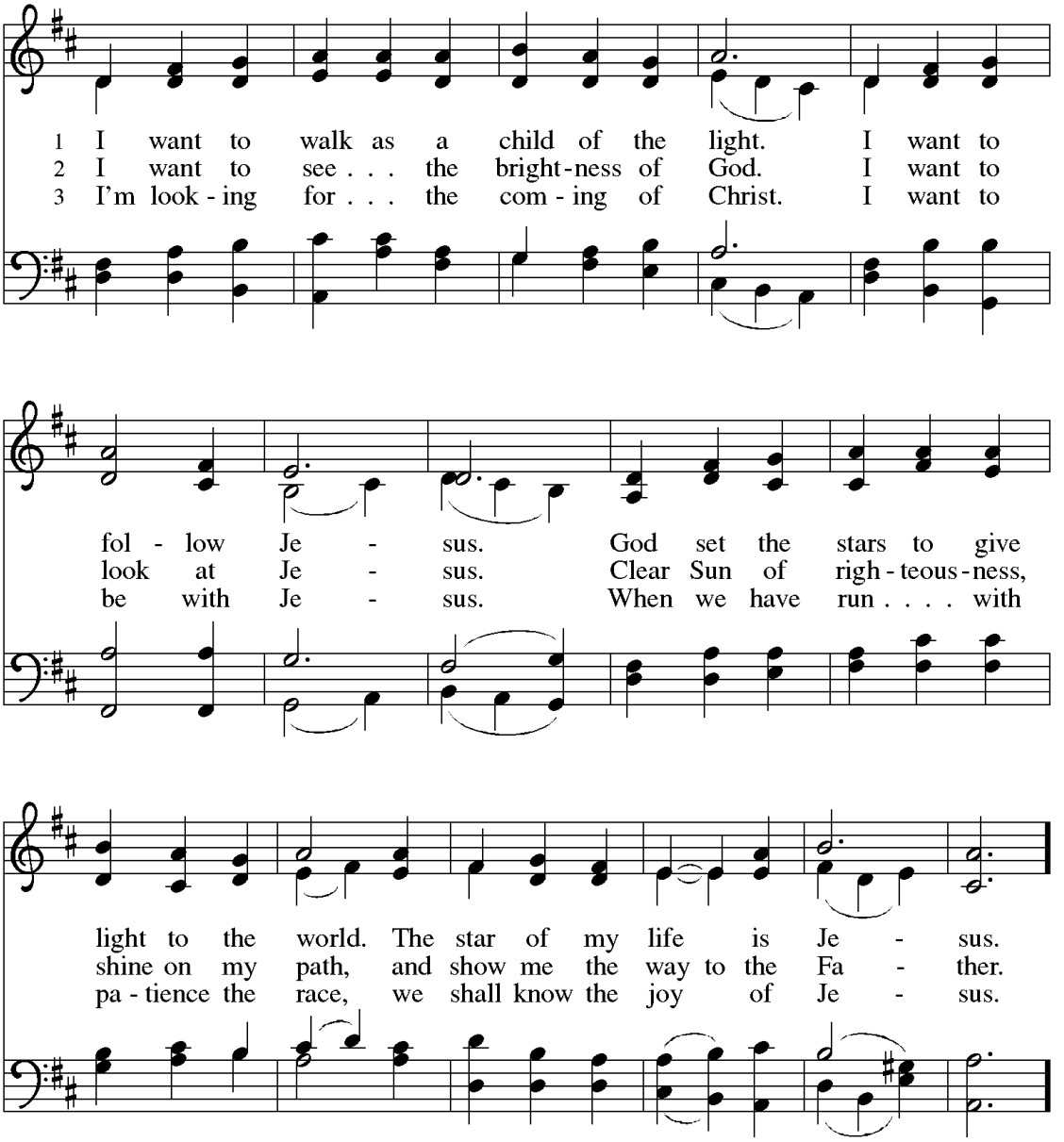


P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

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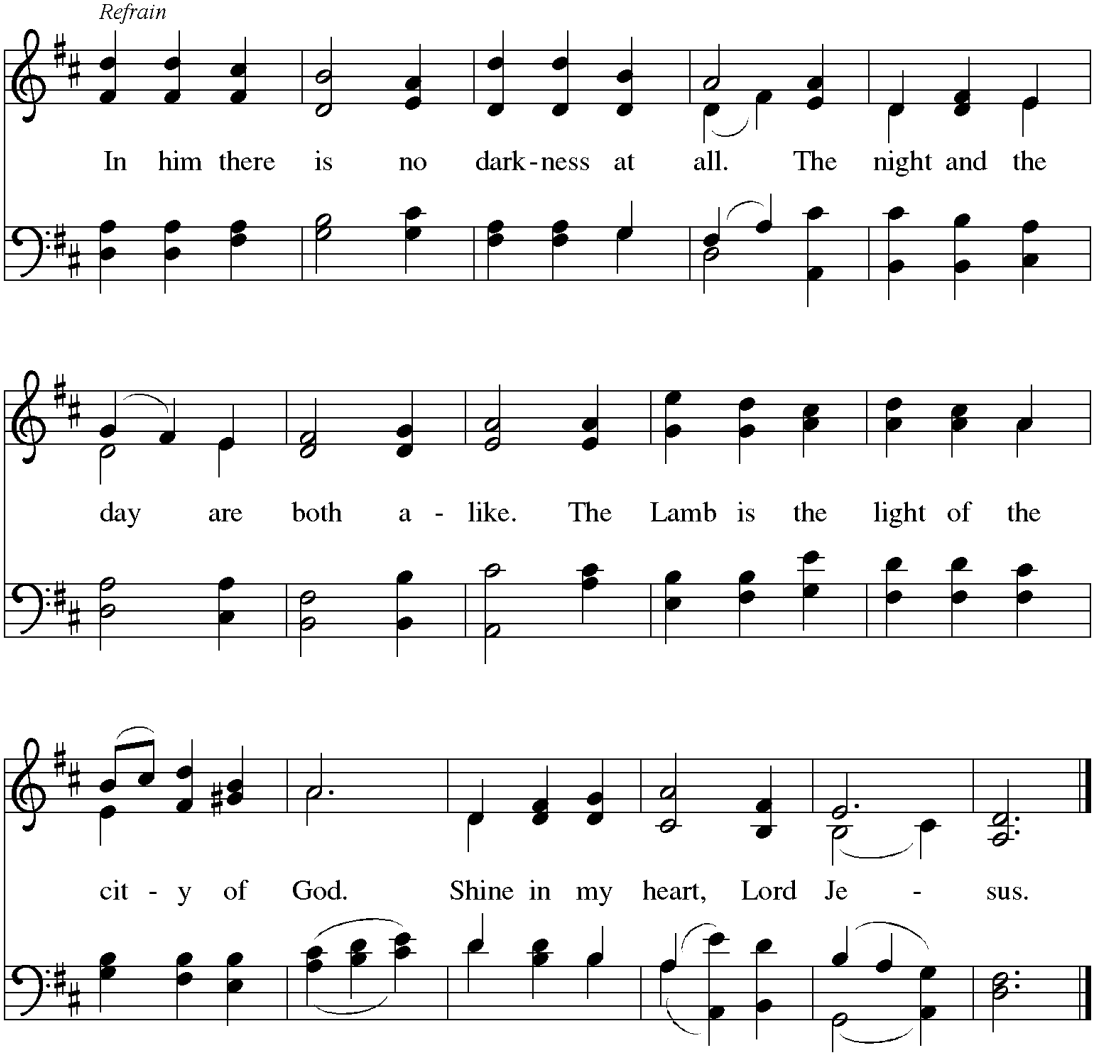
A: Let us Pray
A: God of glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ELW #815 *"I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light"*



Closing Hymn con't...

ELW #815 *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*



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 *Excerpt from "Athalie"* **by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy**

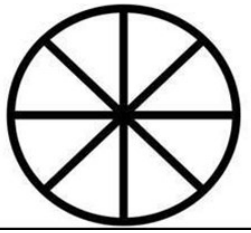
Today's celebrants:

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Zook
Deacon: Christina Mitchell
Lector: Grace Araya
Greeter: Jocelyn Lemish
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

The Ichthus ("Fish"): An Acronym



Greek forms	Ιησοῦς	Χριστός	θεος	Υιός	Σωτήρ
	Iesous	Christos	Theos	Huios	Sotor
English	Jesus	Christ	God	Son	Saviour



A way of writing the Ichthus symbol by superimposing the initial Greek letters one on top of another

Announcements

Council Meeting

Church Council meets today following worship! If you are a Council member, please stay after to attend the meeting.

Concert this afternoon!

Come back to Concordia at 2pm this afternoon to hear piano duo Dana Brown and Paul Dykstra - and friends - as they perform works by Bach, Schumann, and more! It's a concert you won't want to miss! This concert is free; donations are welcome.

Potluck - February 15th

Make plans to stay after worship on Sunday, February 15th for our next potluck! This is the final Sunday before Lent begins, and we will eat and fellowship together as we prepare our hearts for the Lenten season. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church, or email Desirae your RSVP at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org.

Sunday School

The next Sunday School session is on February 1st. The lesson theme will be 'Loving Others' as we celebrate Valentine's day. 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!

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.

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.

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 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
  Potluck following Worship
- February 18th: Ash Wednesday service at 7pm
- February 22nd: Council Meeting at 11am

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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

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



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 #513 *"Listen God is Calling"***

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919
Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Hymn of the Day **ELW #574 *"Here I Am, Lord"***

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946
Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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 #815 "*I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light*"**

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

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.
4. **Liturgy Hymns & Text** are used by permission, of OneLicense: license number A-704728, Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI): license number 2760294, and Augsburg Fortress license number 23952.

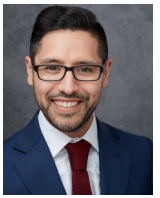
Church Staff Contact Information



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773-281-1225



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Paul Dykstra, Organist & Choir Director
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