

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion



February 5, 2023

10:00 a.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1479 Morse Road + Columbus, OH 43229

"Our mission is to welcome all people in learning, living, and sharing God's grace."

A few notes about worship:

Ascension strives to be a welcoming and safe place for all. Here are the COVID-19 protocols in place:

- The Church Council meets monthly, and if transmission rates remain low, we will continue to lift our Covid protocols.
- The transmission risk for our area is low, (on a scale of low-medium-high). You can find the current level at:
https://covidactnow.org/us/metro/columbus_oh/?s=26541558
- Masks are optional. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19, following an immediate quarantine period, should wear a mask. If you are immunocompromised, learn more about [how to protect yourself](#).
- Disposable masks are available on the table as you enter the building or on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.
- We will not be passing the offering plates; plates are available on the table as you arrive or leave the sanctuary.
- Please pick up communion elements as you arrive. Gluten-free wafers are available in a separate plastic bag. You will be directed as to the appropriate time to receive. Empty cups should be placed in the trash receptacle as you leave.



1479 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43229

Phone: (614) 262-7389. Email: ascluth@gmail.com

www.ascension-columbus.org

Please like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AscensionLutheranChurch>

Bold print indicates Congregation.

ELW – indicates Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal – which is in your pew.

ACS – indicates All Creation Sings

W&P – indicates Worship & Praise

WOV – indicates With One Voice

Please rise as you are able at the titles marked with a plus sign - +.

At places where the cross ✝ appears, it is customary to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.

Introduction to Worship:

Whether you are looking in the news or out the window, things may seem pretty dark and dreary at this time of year, but do not miss the light of Epiphany! We are indeed created in God's image, therefore the spark of the divine is alive in all of us. The light shines through us as we live out God's mission for our lives each day. As Epiphany continues, we should all be prepared to let our light shine and share the good news.

✠ **Gathering** ✠

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude *Blessed Are You and Great is Your Reward* ~by Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Welcome

Choral Introit *The Lord is My Light* ~by Frances Allitsen

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 who makes all things new,
 whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
 and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
 forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
 for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P: Thus says our God:

 "The former things have come to pass
 and new things I now declare."

 God's mercy makes us new.

 We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C: **Amen.**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



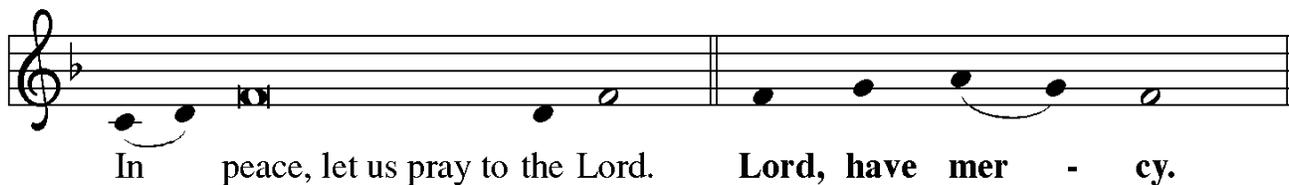
we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

+ Greeting

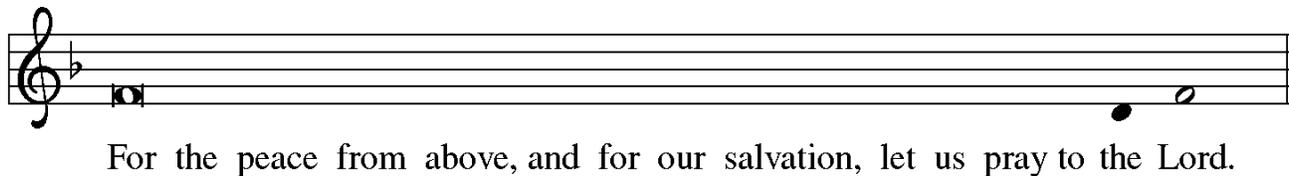
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

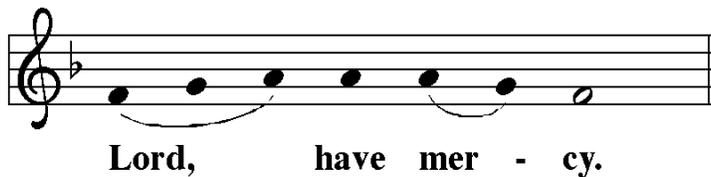
+Kyrie



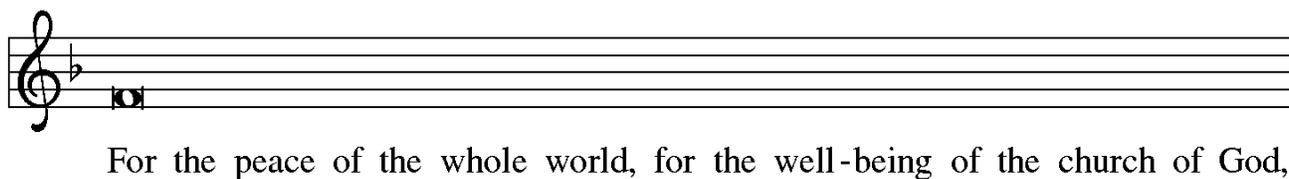
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



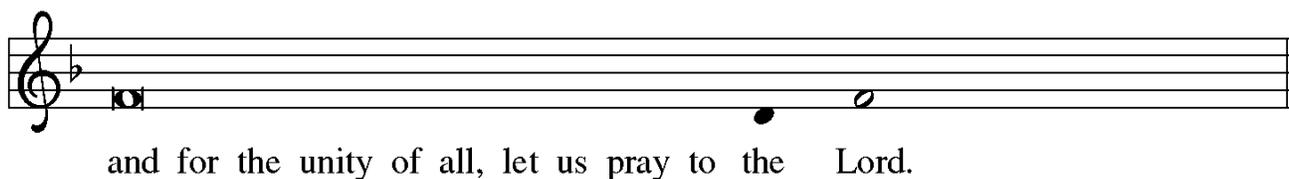
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



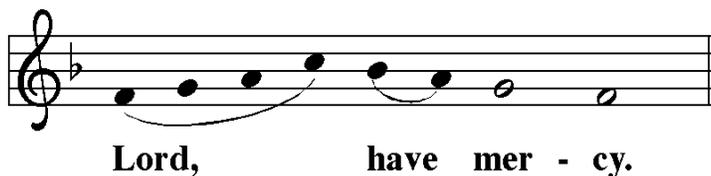
Lord, have mer - cy.



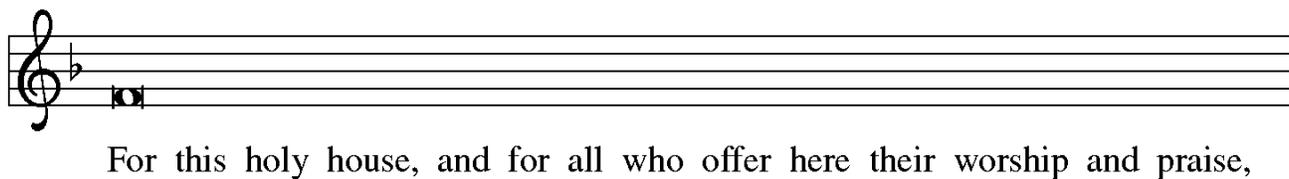
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



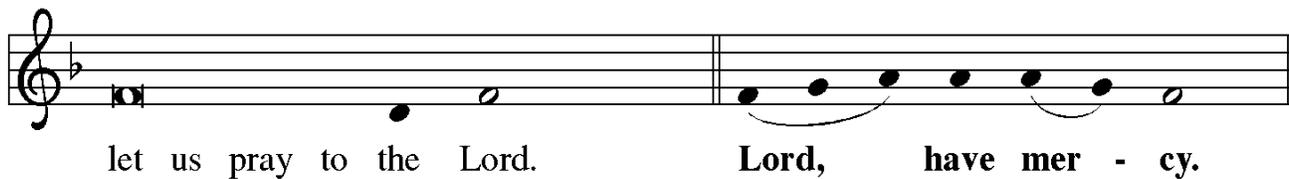
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



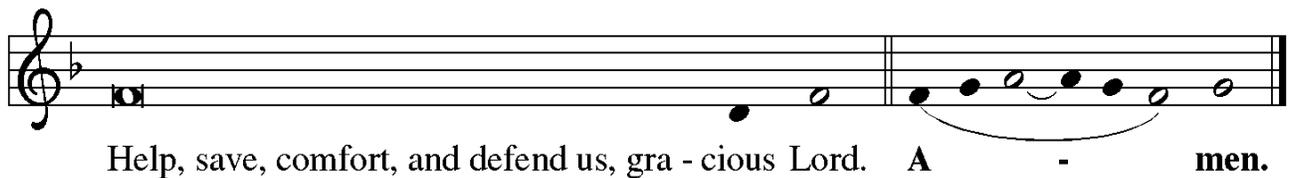
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

+Hymn of Praise



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



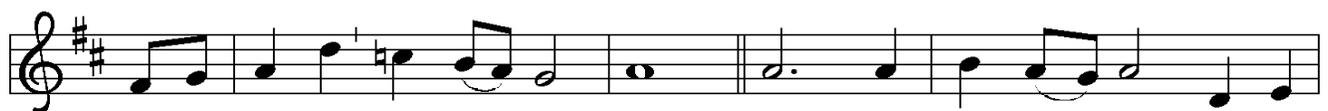
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

+Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

✠ Word ✠

God speaks to us in scriptures reading, preaching, and song.

First Lesson

The fast God chooses

Isaiah 58:1-12

A: A reading from Isaiah.

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and God will say, Here I am.

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

A: Holy wisdom, holy word.

C: Thanks be to God.



‘Walking Out of Darkness’ photography – Alexandria Moore

Chancel Choir Anthems

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door
I Can't Keep Quiet About My Lord

~arr. by R. C. Wilson
~by Audrey Kissiday

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the dominion of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the dominion of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the dominion of heaven.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

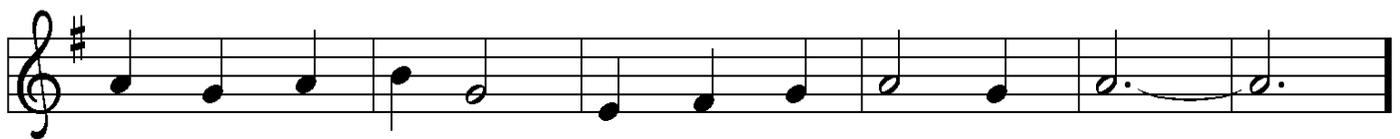




1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

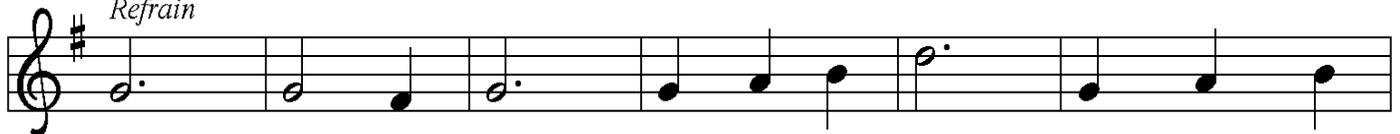


truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

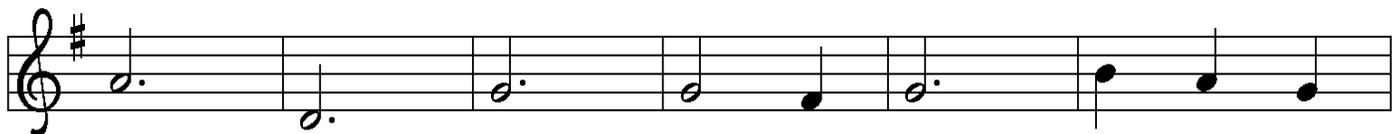


your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

+Profession Of Faith

P: With the whole Church, we confess our faith:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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: Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ.

A brief silence.

A: As the prophet Isaiah rang out, "Arise, shine; for your light has come";
empower your Church, O God,
to ring out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus,
which pierces even the deepest darkness.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: As a star rose high into the nighttime sky
to draw the nations to the Christ-child;
send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation,
and draw the whole world to your peace and truth.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness
and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan,
we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders
to the ways of justice and righteousness.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Like the Magi who traveled from afar
to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior's birth;
we pray for this community, and for those who celebrate
their own birthdays, anniversaries, and other joy-filled occasions.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: As Jesus climbed the mountaintop,
and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world;
we pray for the sick and the distressed, and those in need in any way;
especially we pray for _____.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats, and follow him;
shape our congregation to be salt for the earth.
Make us steadfast in our trust in you,
ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: As Jesus promised he will be with us through the end of the ages,
we praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shined forth in their witness.
Keep them in our remembrance
and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord Jesus, Light of the World,
hear our prayers, and make us reflections of you,
that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light,
and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy.

C: Amen.

+Sharing of Christ's Peace

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share with one another Christ's peace, and then be seated.

Offering

*Please place your offering in one of the plates as you leave the sanctuary following worship; or go to
www.ascension-columbus.org*

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.
Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
C: **Amen.**

✠ Meal ✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving at the Table

+Dialog

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.**

+Words of Institution

P: Holy God,
Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time
your word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time,
you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness
and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,
that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C: Amen.

+Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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.**

+Invitation to Communion

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

Please be seated to take the elements.



Sharing of the Bread and Cup

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Those who have not received instruction and desire to do so, please see the pastor. You are invited to receive the elements at this invitation with the words from the pastor: "The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you."

Communion Music "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" (vv. 1 and 4) ELW 712



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Blessing at the Table

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

C: **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A: Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

C: **Amen.**



✠ Sending ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Ministry Announcements

+Benediction

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

C: **Amen.**



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
 2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

+Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

~arr. by Benton Price

+++

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Karen Asmus-Alsnauer

Assisting Minister: Oscar Kamazima

Organist and Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Ed Duling

CWS Band: Tom Martin (Director and bass), Ed Hinton (drums), Von Smith (guitar), Chris Young (piano).

Ascending Tones Bell Choir: Jan Dahlstrom, Director

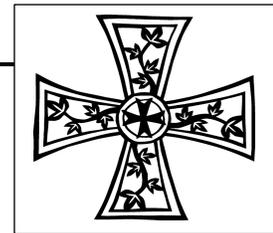
Altar Guild: Jan Dahlstrom, Brenda Noe, Peggy Dlusky, Pam Kratzer

Ushers: Alan Dahlstrom, Mike Fitak

Tech Crew: Oscar Kamazima, Joel Kratzer, Dave Holtzapple

Librarians: Celeste Schnabel, Martha Gostely

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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“Kyrie” and “This is the Feast,” ELW Setting Three.

“*Gather Us In*”. Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen. Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358

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“*God Be the Love*”. Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967. Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan. Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under One License #740756 .



Central Ohio Brass Band

WINTER CONCERT

**Sunday, February 19th
7:00 PM**

**Matthew Shane Henry, Director
C. Scott Smith, Associate Director**

**Ascension Lutheran Church
1479 Morse Road
Columbus, OH**

(Free will offering to benefit the concert fund)