

January 29, 2023 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Streaming Worship Service
Messiah Lutheran Church, Amherst, NH



WELCOME

PRELUDE —

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

One: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All: Amen.

One: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

One: Most merciful God,

All: have mercy on us.

We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we might live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

One: With joy I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all you sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -

self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heav'n above
 shall come the city of our God.

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

All: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Detailed description: The musical notation is on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. The first line is for the Assistant, starting with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second line is for the Congregation, starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally a quarter note G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Detailed description: The musical notation is on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first line is for the Assistant, starting with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second line is for the Congregation, starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally a quarter note G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

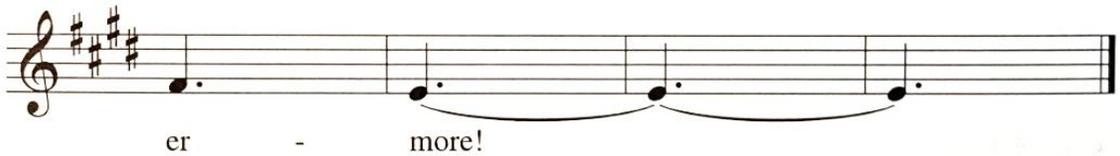
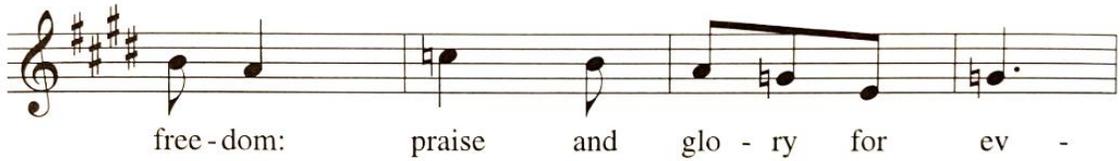
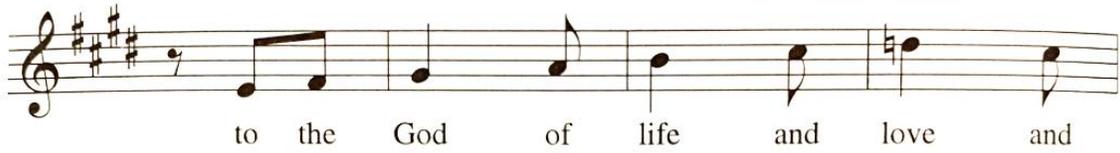
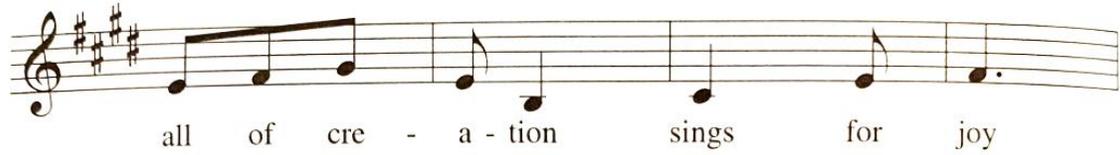
Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

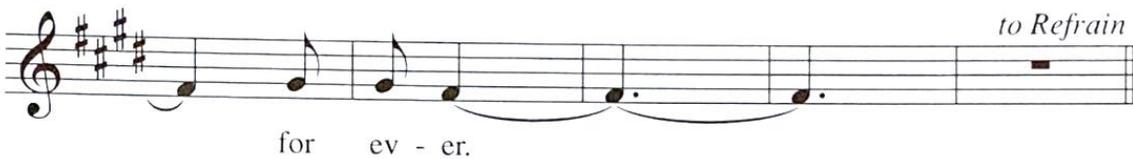
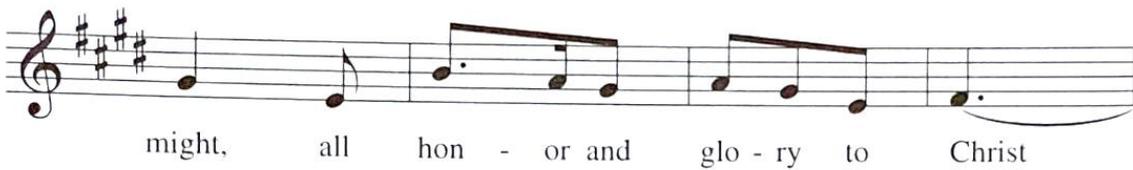
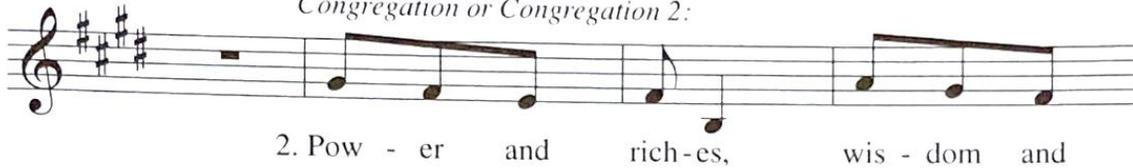
Refrain

Congregation:



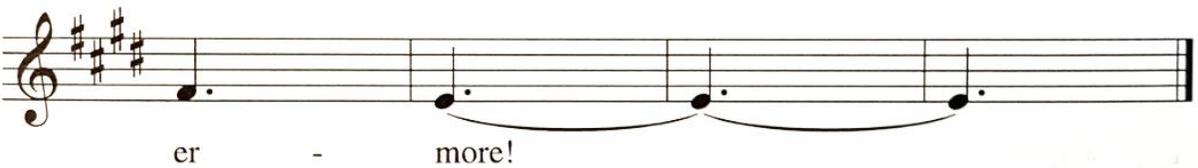
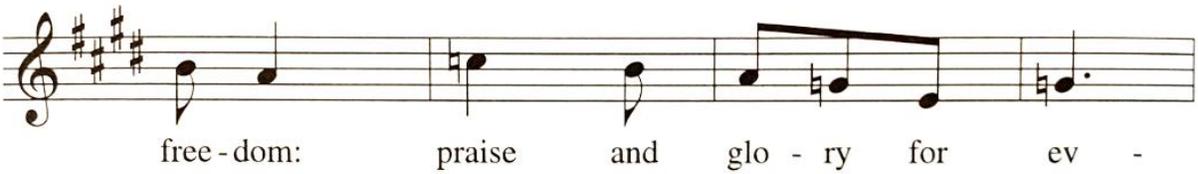
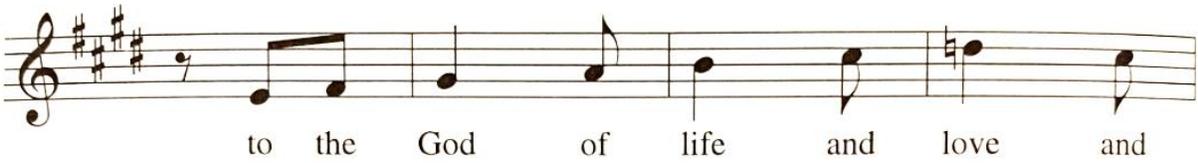
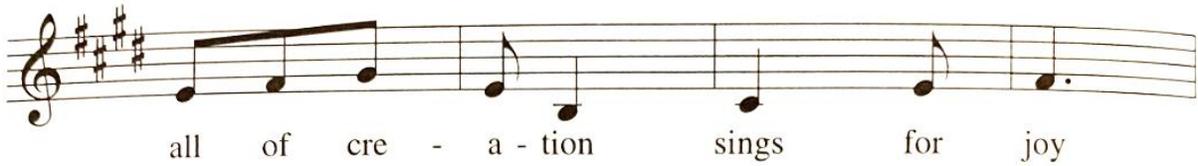
Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:



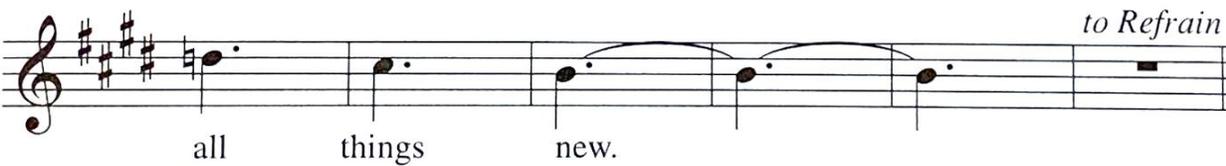
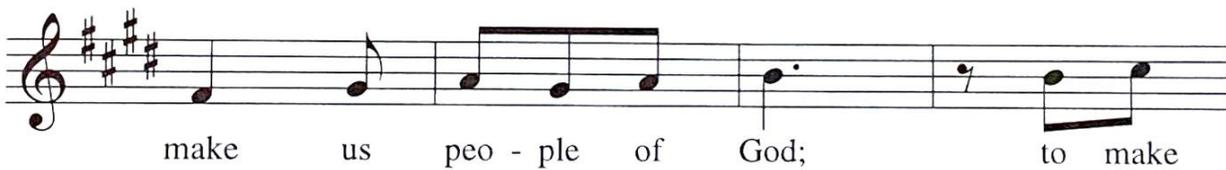
Refrain

Congregation:



Verse 3

Congregation:



Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

SALUTATION

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

a brief silence

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

A reading from Micah the 6th chapter:

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (spoken or chanted) Psalm 15

LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

SECOND LESSON

A reading from 1 Corinthians 1st chapter:

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

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CREED

One: Together we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed:

**All: 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 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

Let us pray:

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church,
the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers (*local and international reconciliation efforts may be named*).

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need (*especially*) Claudette Briere, Steve Kasmar, George Waghorn, Eric, Anika DiVirgilio, Rita, Krista Seckinger, Christine Glass, DelRe Family, Kate, The Demello Family, Norm and Polly Cote, Pastor Don Blume, Doug Pulfer, Bob Conway, Ed Costa, Jeanette Renna.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Uniting God, unite this assembly in its shared mission and ministry for the sake of the gospel with AMMPARO, the ELCA congregations of the New Hampshire conference, Habitat for Humanity, Ash Street Shelter, Share, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire, and others. Highlight ways we can better work together and give us patience to work through disagreement, help us be open and gracious towards new partnership opportunities in Southern New Hampshire.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place (*especially*). Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERING

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain

Congregation:

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

One: Let us pray:

Merciful God,

All: everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features alternating parts for the Presider and the Congregation. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise."

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And also with

Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

Presider: lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

Freely
Presider:

It is our duty and de-light that we should everywhere and always offer

thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...

Advent 1&2: whose coming the prophets and John the Baptist
announced with great joy,

Advent 3&4: who is your promised light which no night can
overcome,

Christmas: who is your word made flesh among us,

Epiphany: who is your light made manifest to all the nations,

Lent: who bids us turn to you and prepare for the Páschal
feast,

Easter: who by his death on the cross and glorious
resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death
and gave life to all creation,

Pentecost: and the Spirit, whom you poured out upon the
Church and your people:

Holy Trinity: who with you and the Holy Spirit is worshiped
and glorified, one God, Holy and Eternal,

*Sundays after
Pentecost:* who calls us to follow his way of humble service
and love,

All Saints: to whom _____ and all the saints and martyrs
bore witness with their lives,

Christ the King: whose rule is gentle and whose way is peace,

(Insert proper preface here)

...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the

host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - - end - ing

in rhythm

hymn: _____

To Holy, Holy

HOLY

Congregation:

Ho - ly; ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical notation is written on five staves. The first staff is labeled 'Congregation:'. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes or bar lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One: Together we pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

**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.

DISTRIBUTION

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen
you and ✠ keep you in his grace. Amen.

THANKS BE TO YOU

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray, we thank you God that you make us into that which we eat—the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Use us to be his hands and feet in this world that you so loved.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you his peace.

Amen.



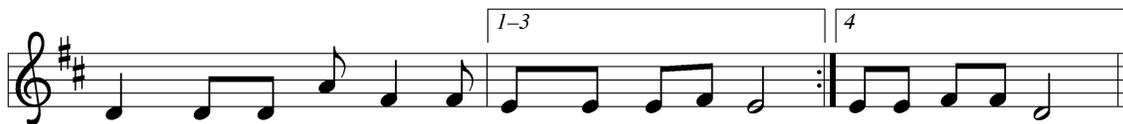
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

- 2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel," *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será, *Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo_a encontrar,*
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá. *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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<p style="text-align: center;">LITURGY</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"><p>Now the Feast and Celebration</p><p>— Marty Haugen —</p><p><small>GIA Publications, Inc. • 7401 S. Mason Ave. • Chicago, IL 60638</small></p></div>	<p>Liturgy and other music managed by GIA Publications are reprinted through One License: A-731180</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Eat This Bread Text and music © 1984 Les Preses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission.</p>
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