

February 15 2026  
Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Messiah Lutheran  
Amherst, NH



# Mass of Steady Light

liturgical musical setting by Jon Abrams

Dedicated with gratitude to those who  
gather, sing, and trust the work of worship.

## PRELUDE Jon Abrams

## WORDS OF WELCOME

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

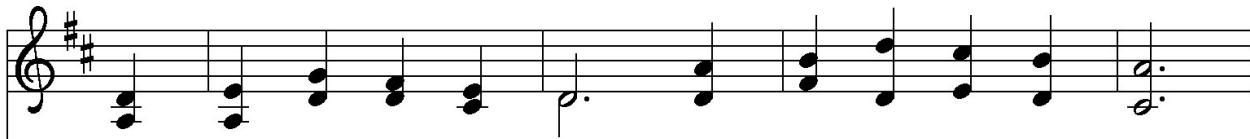
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

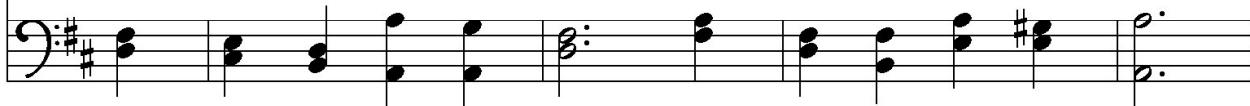
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN****ELW 315 How Good, Lord, to Be Here!**

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

Voice



5 9 13 17 21 25

Ky - ri — e — e — lei — son — — ky - ri — e — e —  
le - i - son — — Chri — ste — e — lei — son — — Chri —  
ste — e — lei — son — — ky - ri — e — e — lei — son — —  
e — le — i — son — —

John Adams

Voice

5 9 13 17 21 25 29

Glory to God— in the high— est and peace to His peo - ple, the  
 peo - ple on earth— Glory to God in the high— est and  
 peace to His peo-ple on earth— Lord, God heaven-ly King al-  
 migh - ty God and Father we wor-ship You — we give You thanks— we  
 praise You for Your glo — ry Glory to God— in the high—

33

—est and peace to His peo - ple on earth— Lord Je—sus Chirst on—ly

41

Son of the Fa——ther Lord God— Lamb of God — You take a - way

45

—— the sin of the world — have mercy ——— on us — Glory to

49

God — in the high — est and peace to His people on earth —

53

57

God — in the high — est and peace to His people on earth —

61

65

seated are you — at the right hand of God the Father ——— re-

69

— ceive our prayer For you a-lone are the ho-ly one You a-lone are the Lord

73

77

You a-lone are most high Jesus Christ ——— with the spi-rit most ho — ly the

81

85

Glo - ry of God. Glory to God in the high — est and peace to His

89

89

peo - ple His peo - ple His peo - ple peace to His peo — ple His peo —

93

93

ple on earth A———men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

A reading from the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter of Exodus:

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life.     **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY 99 (sung responsively)

MLC Psalm Tone I



The musical notation shows a treble clef, a 'C' for common time, and four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note on the second line and a half note on the first line. The second measure has three eighth notes on the second line. The third measure has a half note on the first line and a quarter note on the second line. The fourth measure has three eighth notes on the second line.

MLC Psalm tones by J. Abrams 2024

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is king; let the | people tremble.  
The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord, | great in Zion,  
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup>Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;  
God is the | Holy One.

<sup>4</sup>**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;  
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down be- | fore God's footstool;  
God is the | Holy One.

<sup>6</sup>**Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your | name, O Lord,  
they called upon you, and you | answered them,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup>**O Lord our God, you answered | them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their | evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's | holy hill;  
for the Lord our God is the | Holy One.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of 2 Peter:

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

J. O. Damer

Voice

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Your word is a lamp to my feet and a  
 light to my path Al - le - lu - ia

## GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## ELW 671 Shine, Jesus, Shine

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire,

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me: Shine on me, shine on me:

***Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict (*regions at war may be named*). Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve (*especially*) Claudette Briere, Ed Costa, Norm and Polly Cote, Deloris Jay, Carol Clark, Elia Herlinda Soteldo Cuica, Kayann Laughlin, Timothy Alexander, The Wurst Family, Rev Bob Kocher, Shelly Stama, Eric Ball, Connor McCaffrey, Marc Bouchard, Jeffery Lindenberg, Jim Bellig, Diane Hazel, Linnea Micciulla, Phil Stinnett, Susan Poutre, Krista Seckinger, Carly King, Christine Covel, the Demello family, John and Wilma Minnick, Karma, Barbara Scholz, Carly Hoeni, The Family of John Gottman.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries including Share, bless the efforts of AMMPARO, the ELCA congregations of the New Hampshire conference, Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Disaster Response, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire, Border Servant Corps, His mansion.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble  
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;  
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;  
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*guitar*

Voice

Ho - ly ho-ly ho-ly Lord God of pow'r and might hea-ven and earth are

full of your glo-ry Ho-san-na Ho-san-na Ho-san-na in the high-est Blessed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord Ho-san-na Ho-san-na Ho-san-na in the highest Ho-san-na

Ho - san - na Ho - san - na in the high - est

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**† Christ has died.**

**† Christ is risen.**

**† Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

## COMMUNION

*John O'Dowd*

Voice

5

9

Lamb of — God — You take a-way the sin of the world have mercy on us —

13

Lamb of — God — you take a-way the sin of the world have mercy on us —

17

21

25

Lamb of — God — you take a-way the sin of the world      Grant us — peace



COMMUNION HYMN ELW 838 Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

8

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

8

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

- The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**
- The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
- The God of all grace  $\ddagger$  bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN     ELW 866    We Are Marching in the Light

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
We are march - ing in the light of God,

*Si - ya - ham - ba* \_\_\_\_\_ *oo* \_\_\_\_\_  
 We are march - ing *oo* \_\_\_\_\_

*Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,*  
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Si - ya - ham - ba* \_\_\_\_\_ *oo* \_\_\_\_\_  
 We are march - ing *oo* \_\_\_\_\_

*Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,*  
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*  
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## SENDING

Go and let your light so shine before others... **That God might be glorified. Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

Jon Abrams

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