

*Introduction to the day: Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.*

## **GATHERING**

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

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### **OPENING SONG/PRELUDE**

*10,000 Reasons ©Matt Redmond*

*(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)*

## **WELCOME**

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and to face the baptismal font.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.  
Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

*Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.*

## **GATHERING SONG**

*God, Bless the Hands*

(ACS 1022)

Music and lyrics on following page



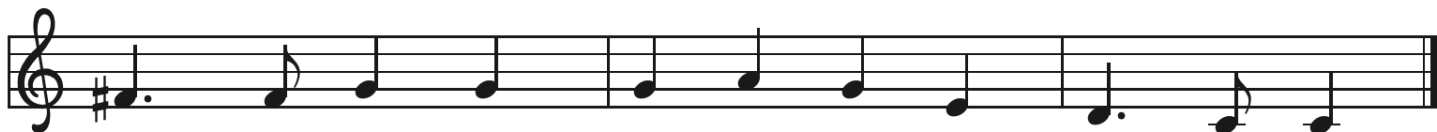
1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and  
 2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied  
 3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give  
 by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -  
 life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your  
 pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we  
 earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.  
 raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.  
 air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

**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.**



Leader

In peace, let us pray  
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord\_ have mer cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

2

Leader

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

CONGREGATION

Lord\_ have mer- cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For peace in the world,  
for the health of God's church,  
and for all unity, let us pray  
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord\_ have mer - cy  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For this holy house,  
and we who offer praise, let us pray  
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord\_ have mer cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

Help, save, comfort and defend us,  
gracious Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord\_ have mer- cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
A - - - - - men

This is the feast of vic-tor-y  
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.  
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y  
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia  
 Wor- thy is the  
 Lamb who was slain  
 His blood to set us free  
 Peo-ple of God to serve the Lord  
 Serve the Lord for e-ver.  
 Po- wer, rich- es,  
 wis- dom, strength  
 Hon- or, bless- ing, glo- ry

All be-long to God on high.  
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y  
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.

This is the feast of vic-tor-y  
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia  
 Sing with all God's  
 ho- ly peo- ple  
 Join the hy- mn of  
 all cre- a- tion  
 Bless- ing, hon- or,  
 glo- ry, mi- ght  
 Be to God and the  
 Lamb for- ev- er  
 A- men! A- men!

This is the feast of vic-tor-y  
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.  
 For the Lamb who once was slain  
 Has be-gun his reign forev- er.  
 A- - - - men!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

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**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 58:1-12 (Chan Family)

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.*

*A reading from Isaiah.*

- <sup>1</sup>Shout 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.
- <sup>2</sup>Yet 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.
- <sup>3</sup>“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.
- <sup>4</sup>Look, 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.
- <sup>5</sup>Is 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?
- <sup>6</sup>Is 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?
- <sup>7</sup>Is 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?
- <sup>8</sup>Then 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.
- <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
- <sup>10</sup>if 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.
- <sup>11</sup>The 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.
- <sup>12</sup>Your 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM:** Psalm 112:1-10

(Chan Family)

- <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!  
<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**  
<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.  
<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**  
<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.  
<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**  
<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.  
<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**  
<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.  
<sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

(Chan Family)

*Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.*

*A reading from 1 Corinthians.*

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him” —

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>“For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

# KIDS' MESSAGE

(Jeri Wartena)

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel*

## GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>“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.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In 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.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For 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. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

## SERMON (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able*

## HYMN OF THE DAY *Salt and Light*

©Jan L'ecuyer and John L'ecuyer

You make \_ me want \_ to be \_ like You; Your ho - li - ness .

4

\_ I will \_ pur - sue; I want the heart \_ of Je - sus;

Show me \_ the mean - ing of \_ Your grace;

11 D<sup>2</sup> C#m D<sup>2</sup>

I want \_ to give \_ the world \_ a taste of the love \_ of Je -

CHORUS

15 E E B

- sus. \_ Make \_ me salt, make \_ me light;

19 C#m A E B

Let Your ho - ly fire \_ ig - nite; Re-veal Your glo - ry in \_ my \_ life; .

\_ I am not \_ a - shamed \_ to

27 C#m A E

lift up \_ Your ho - ly name; \_ Make \_ me salt, \_

30 B C#m A E

\_ make \_ me light. \_\_\_\_\_ 8<sup>va</sup> -----

INSTRUMENTAL

40 A E D

----- | Set me as \_ a cit - y on \_ a hill,

BRIDGE



a lamp \_ on a stand; Mold \_ me in \_ Your im - age, the

48 C#m D<sup>2</sup> CHORUS  
E

work of \_ Your hand. Make \_ me salt,

52 B C#m A E

make \_ me light; Let Your ho - ly fire \_ ig - nite; Re-veal Your glo-

56 B C#m A E

- ry in \_ my \_ life; I am not \_

60 B C#m A

\_ a - shamed \_ to lift up \_ Your ho - ly name; \_

63 E B C#m 1.  
A

Make \_ me salt, \_ make \_ me light. \_\_\_\_\_

## CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world in this Epiphany Season and confess our shared faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

*Please be seated*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (Chan Family)

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

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*(Prayer requests provided by congregation to be added here by Reader)*

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

## **PEACE**

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

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

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## **OFFERING**

*We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.  
Thank you so much for your continued support.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

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,  
**Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.  
By your powerful word you created all things.  
Through the prophets you called your people  
to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.  
He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing,  
his dying and rising,  
and his promise to come again,  
we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance 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.

**Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of your heart.  
**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

Come and taste the joy of God!

All are welcome to join in our communion celebration.  
Please follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the ushers.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.  
**Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.*

## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*We Are Marching in the Light: Siyahamba*

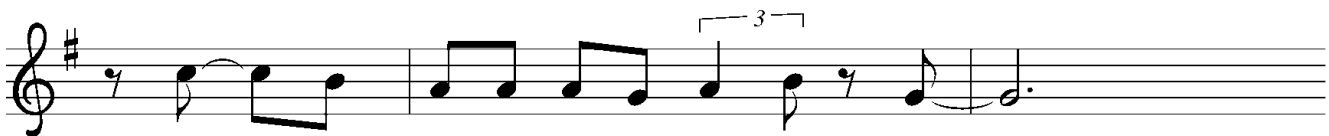
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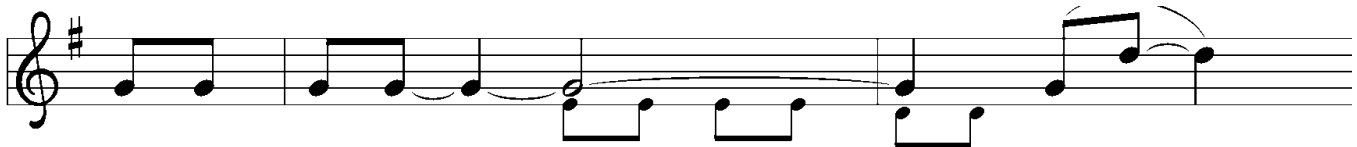
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



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



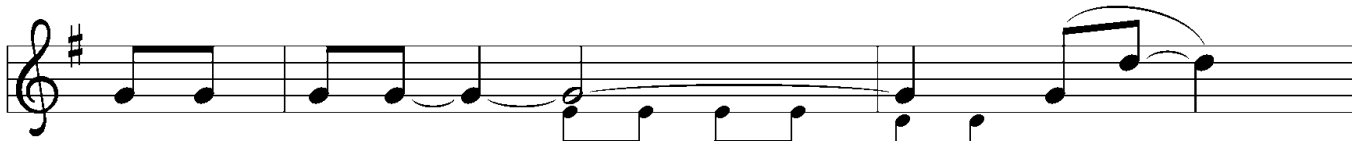
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



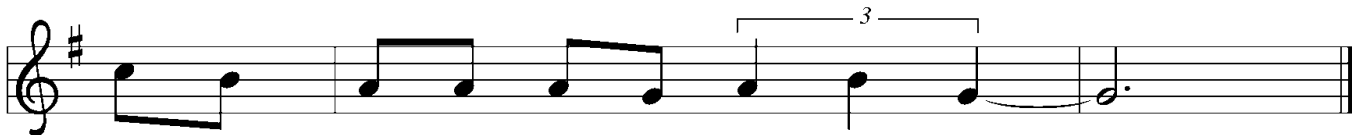
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



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



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



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

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After brief announcements related to the ministry of Bethel,  
 the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God and we will.**