

*Introduction to the day: As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.*

## **GATHERING**

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

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### **OPENING SONG/PRELUDE**

*Chain Breaker*

©Jonathan Smith, Mia Fieldes, Zach Willimas

*(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)*

## **WELCOME**

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

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty,  
you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.  
In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.  
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.  
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

**Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

**Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.  
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.  
Where despair prevails, grant hope.  
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.  
We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen.**

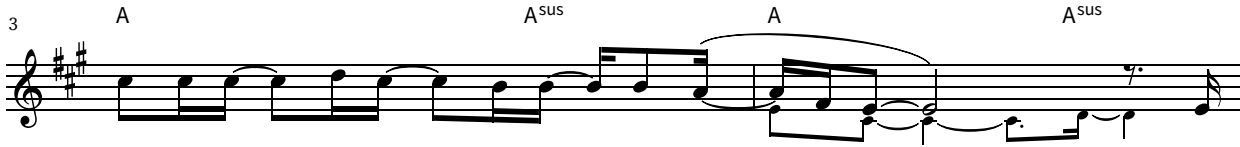
*Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.*

# GATHERING SONG *Sing a Song*

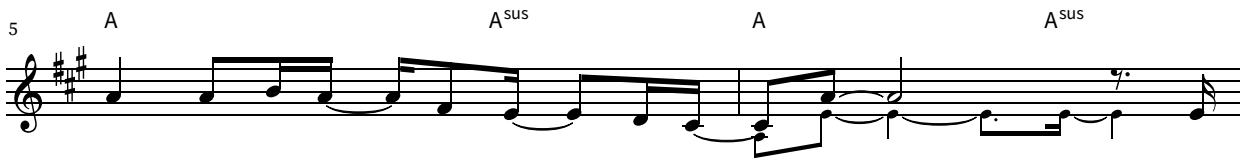
@Mac Powell, David Carr, Tai Anderson, Brad Avery, Mark D. Lee



1. I want to sing \_ a song \_ for You, \_ Lord. \_  
 2. I want to live \_ my life \_ for You, \_ Lord. \_



Lord, for You \_ I want \_ to sing \_ a song. \_\_\_\_\_ And  
 Lord, for You \_ I want \_ to live \_ my life. \_\_\_\_\_



I want to lift \_\_\_ my voice \_ to heav - en, \_\_\_ and  
 I want to praise \_ the name \_ of Je - sus, \_\_\_



lis - ten to \_\_\_ the an - gels sing \_ a - long. \_\_\_ A song of Your \_ faith -  
 pray a - bove \_ all things \_ You're glo - ri - fied. \_\_\_

☞ **CHORUS**



- ful - ness, \_ a song of Your \_ grace, \_ and of Your lov - ing kind

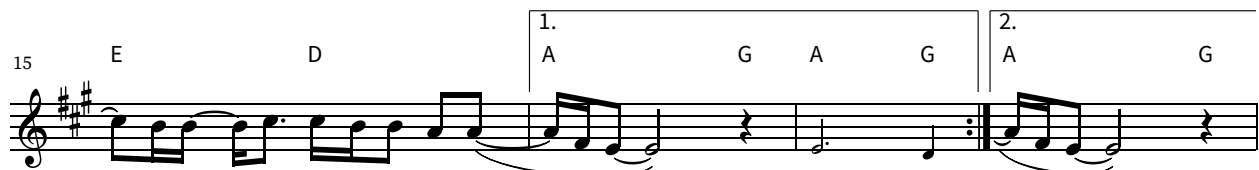


- ness, \_ to the glo - ry of \_\_\_ Your name. \_\_\_\_\_ With ev - 'ry - thing \_ that's in \_

Last time to Coda ☞



\_ me, Lord, lis - ten to \_\_\_ me say: \_\_\_\_\_ I want to sing \_ a song.



\_ for You, \_ I want to sing a song. \_\_\_\_\_

BRIDGE

19 A G A A N.C.

And I sing — a - bout — Your mer - cy and I sing

22

— a - bout — Your love; — Your good - ness, Lord, — Your right - eous - ness. — I want

24 D.S. al Coda

— to sing — a song — of Your — faith -

Coda

25 E D A

— for You, — I want to sing a song. — And we'll — sing,

ENDING

28 A F#m

“Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.” — We'll sing, — “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

31 E D

- ly.” — We'll shout, — “Ho - ly, ho - ly are — You, — Lord — Al - might

34 1. A 2. A

- y!” — Yes, You are — Lord. — And we'll — sing, — y!” —

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.**

**KYRIE**

*Kyrie*

©Kent Alleluia Liturgy

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.

3

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

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*This Is the Feast*

Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Music & Lyrics on next page

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.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60** (Pr. Allen Dunn)

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

*A reading from Acts.*

<sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16** (Pr. Allen Dunn)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.”

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10** (Pr. Allen Dunn)

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

*A reading from 1 Peter.*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup>and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God’s people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

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:** John 14:1-14 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.

<sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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** *Your Grace is Enough*

©Matt Maher

1 Great is your faithfulness o god  
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart  
You lead us by still waters into mercy  
And nothing can keep us apart

*Pre-chorus*

(so) remember your people, remember your children  
Remember your promise Oh God

*Chorus 1*

Your grace is enough; Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me

2 Great is your love and justice god of Jacob  
You use the weak to lead the strong  
You lead us in the song of your salvation  
And all your people sing along

*Chorus 2*

Yeah your grace is enough. Heaven reaches out to us  
Your grace is enough for me. God I sing your grace is enough  
I'm covered in your love. Your grace is enough for me for me

## **CREED**

Let us join with Christians throughout the world this Easter Season and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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 and the Son, 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.**

*Please be seated*



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (Pr. Allen Dunn)

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us. Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Prayer requests provided by congregation may be added here by Reader.*

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**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

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,

for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,

and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us,

healed the sick, fed the hungry,

and with a love stronger than death,

gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection,

we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life,

that we may live as your chosen ones,

clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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 our hearts.

**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 know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

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

## SENDING

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

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## BLESSING

The God of all,  
who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Big House* ©Mark Stuart, Barry Blair, Bob Herdman, Will McGinniss

*Music & lyrics on following page*





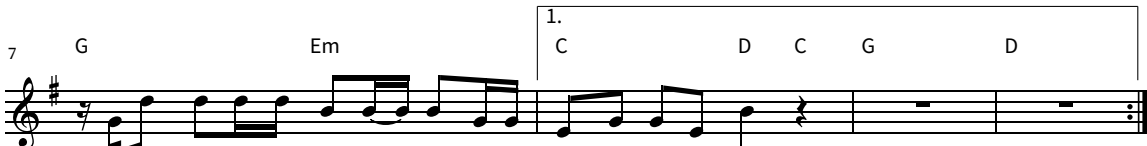
1. I don't know where you lay your head, or where you call \_\_\_ your home. \_\_\_  
 2. I don't know if you got some shel - ter, say, a place \_ to hide. \_\_\_  
 3. All I know is a big ol' house with rooms for ev - 'ry - one. \_\_\_



I don't know where you eat your meals, \_ or where you talk \_ on the phone.  
 I don't know if you live with friends \_ in whom you can \_ con - fide.  
 All I know is a - lots of land \_\_\_ where we can play \_ and \_\_\_ run.



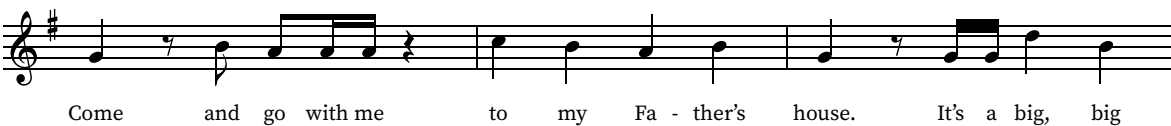
I don't know if you got a cook, \_ a but - ler \_\_\_ or a maid. \_  
 I don't know if you got a fam - 'ly, say, a \_\_\_ mom and dad. \_\_\_  
 All I know is that you need love \_\_\_ and I've got a fam - i - ly. \_\_\_



I don't know if you got a yard with a ham-mock in the shade.  
 I don't know if you feel love at all but I  
 All I know is you're all a - lone, so



be you wish you had. Come and go with me to my Fa-ther's house. \_  
 why not come with me?



Come and go with me to my Fa - ther's house. It's a big, big



house with lots and lots \_ of room. A big, big ta - ble with lots and lots \_ of



food. A big, big yard where we can play \_ foot - ball. A big, big

INSTRUMENTAL



house; it's my Fa - ther's house.

*Please be seated.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
**Thanks be to God and we will.**