



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 11, 2026



All people are descendants of the first man, Adam. After the worldwide flood of God’s judgment of sin, Noah and his sons became the progenitors of all mankind. It was of the lineage of Shem (Genesis 11) that the man Abram was born. The descendants of Abram/Abraham were named Hebrews or Jews, after Judah, one of Jacob’s sons; this naming pertained to all of Israel after the Babylonian exile. To this day, they are referred to as God’s “chosen people” after the words of Moses: “For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth” (Deuteronomy 7:6). They were chosen to be the lineage of the Messiah, the deliverer, the Christ. Faithful to His promise, God took on flesh “of the house and lineage of David” (Luke 2:4) as the incarnate Son of God and Son of Mary of Nazareth.

Today we hear that divine promise in Isaiah 42, identifying Jesus as God’s chosen servant. From the beginning, however, we are told He is not only to be King of the Jews alone but a light to lighten the Gentiles also. The great news is that He is the Savior of and for all people, the descendants not only of Abraham but also of Adam and Noah! By repentance of sin and faith in Christ, worked by the same Spirit that marked Jesus as the chosen one at His Baptism, now all who are baptized into Christ—Jew or Gentile—are the chosen people of God. Praising and thanking God for calling and saving us, we echo the Gospel to all people in the words of the Psalm: “Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!” (Psalm 117:1).

THE PRELUDE

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,

2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed

3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly

4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter

△ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,

why this sense-less fear? For He who of-fers heav'n-ly
on His guid-ing star; And, led by light, to light they
Lamb in meek-ness stood That He, of whom no sin was
red-dened in-to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it
Je-sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa-ther we a-

birth Seeks not the king-doms of this earth.
trod And by their gifts con-fessed their God.
known, Might cleanse His peo-ple from their own.
flowed In streams that na-ture ne'er be-stowed.
dore, And Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Sit

INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS | 10:45am

BAPTISM | 10:45am

NOAH CHRISTOPHER REID

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that

we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

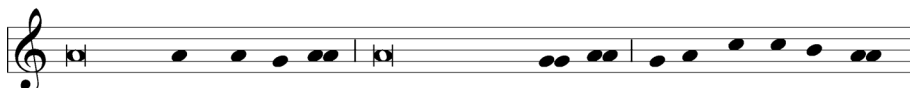
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



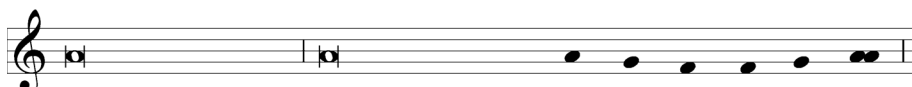
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



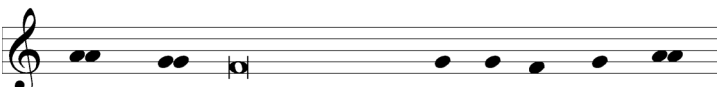
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



A Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



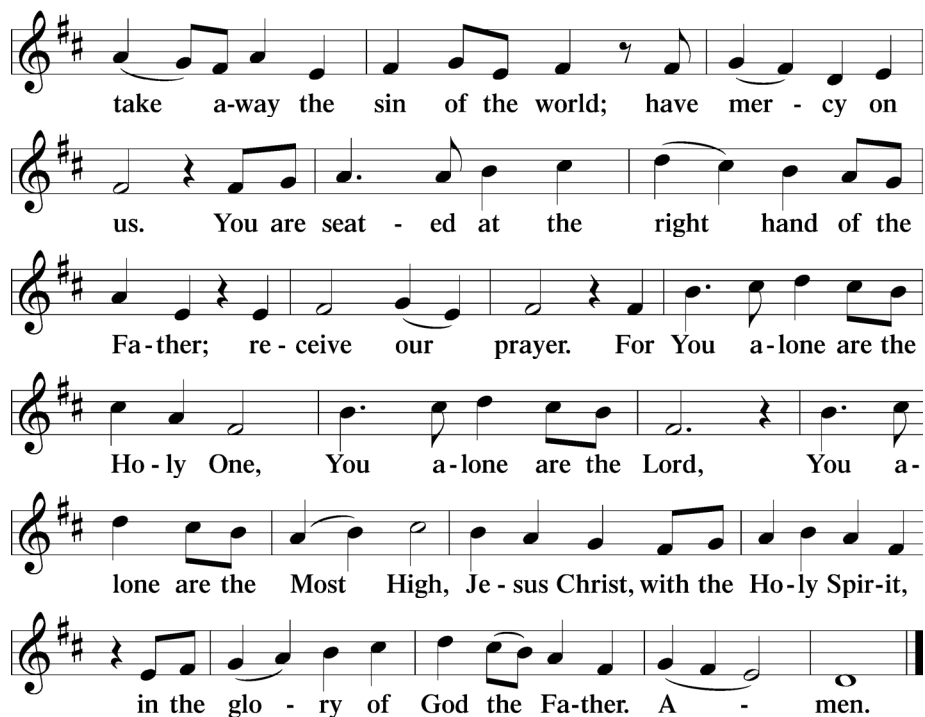
Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 42.

¹Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my Spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged
 till he has established justice in the earth;
 and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
 I will take you by the hand and keep you;
 I will give you as a covenant for the people,
 a light for the nations, ⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
 before they spring forth I tell you of them."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 29

A Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
 worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

- A** The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.
- C** **The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**
- A** The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- C** **He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**
- A** The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.
- C** **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- A** The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- C** **The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**
- A** May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–11

- A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all,

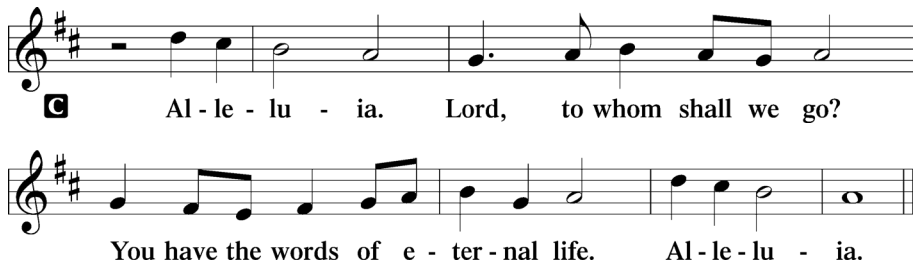
but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL

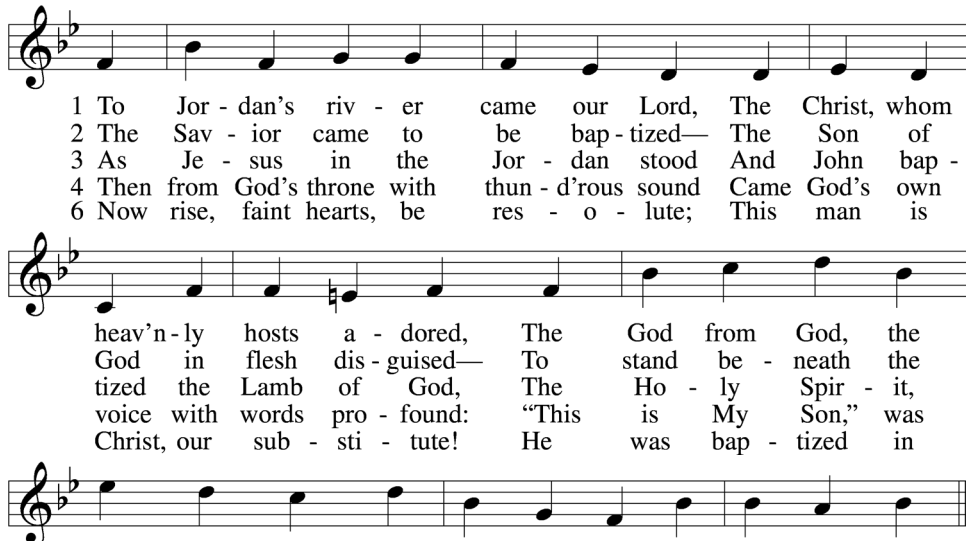
Matthew 3:13–17

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own
 6 Now rise, faint hearts, be res - o - lute; This man is

heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the
 God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the
 tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,
 voice with words pro - found: "This is My Son," was
 Christ, our sub - sti - tute! He was bap - tized in

Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.
 Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.
 heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.
 His de - cree, "The one I love, who pleas - es Me."
 Jor - dan's stream, Pro - claimed Re - deem - er, Lord su - preme.

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 Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.
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SERMON

When Things Are Not the Way They Appear

Pastor Ron Weidler

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.**

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Dear heavenly Father, in the Jordan River, You revealed Jesus to be Your beloved Son. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

C reveal Your grace to us.

P Lord, strengthen all those who have been baptized, especially those who have been baptized recently, with Your heavenly protection. Lead them to find their true identity in You as Your beloved sons and daughters. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

C reveal Your grace to us.

P Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in grief. Console them with the sure and certain hope that just as we have been united with Christ in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

C reveal Your grace to us.




P Lord, bless all pastors, church planters, missionaries, and servants in Your Church who proclaim Your Word and administer Your Sacraments. Embolden them to seek and to save the lost and bring those who have strayed back into Your family. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,

C reveal Your grace to us.

- P** Lord, place Your healing hand upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, *[especially . . .]*. Have mercy upon them and lead them on the path to health according to Your will. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,
- C** reveal Your grace to us.
- P** Lord, we commend all these things to You in the name of Your beloved Son, Jesus. Lord, by mighty work and wonder,
- C** reveal Your grace to us. Amen.

Sit

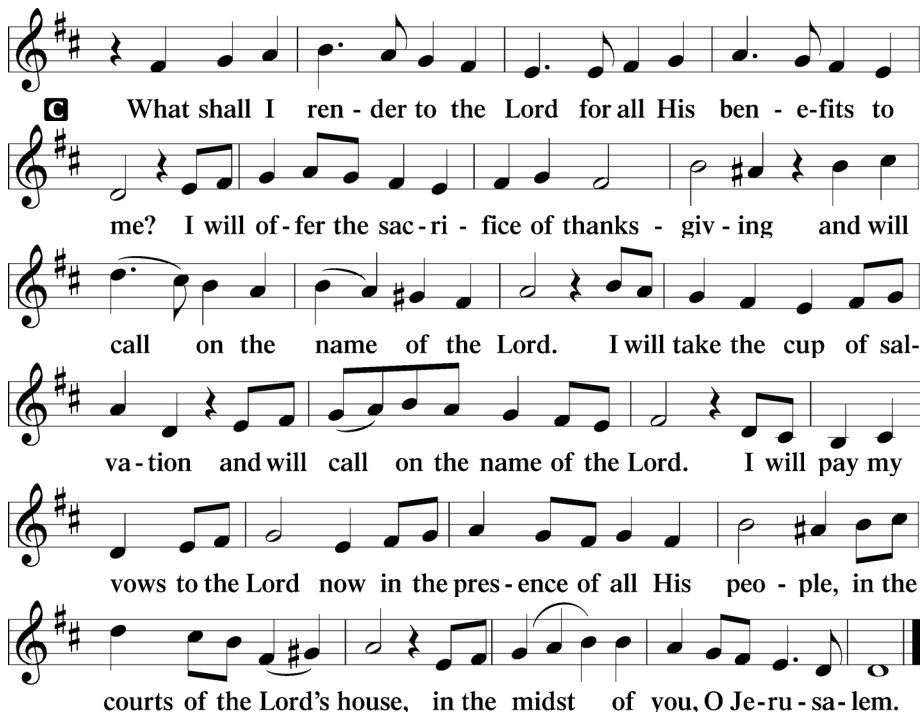
OFFERING

Ways to Give	IN-PERSON	MAIL	ONLINE		zelle	
		505 S Park Road La Grange IL 60525	VANCO			

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalms 116:12–13, 17–19



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, who anointed Your only begotten Son to be the chosen Redeemer of all mankind, we give You thanks for choosing us in Him to share in the fellowship of believers. Move us to shine the light of His grace in our lives that all people hear Your invitation of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS | 8:00am

Stand

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P 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 peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Ron Weidler, Homilist

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Liturgist

Fred Locker, Guest Organist

Sue Kunz, Lector | 8:00am

Sherrie Smith, Lector | 10:45am

MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S

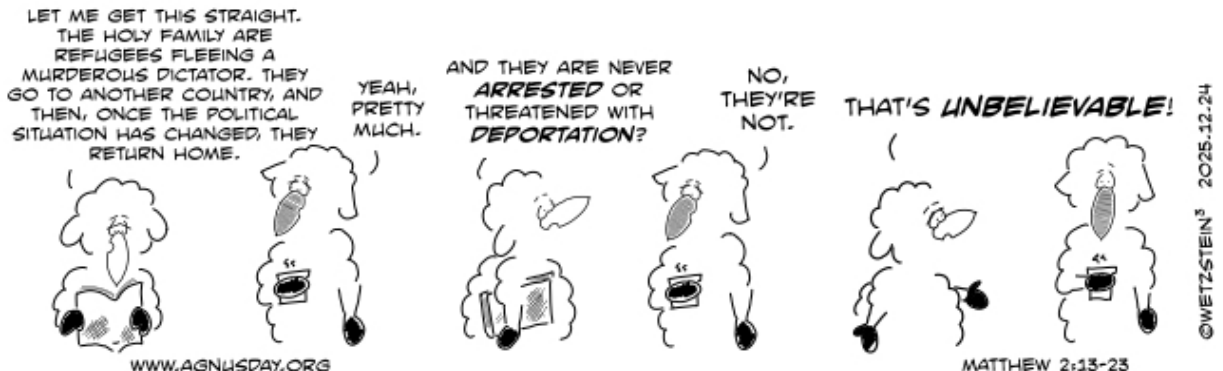


The Music Ministry at St. John's is wholly supported by the generosity of our congregation through contributions to the Music Fund. This fund enables us to provide uplifting and inspirational sacred vocal and instrumental music that enriches our worship and brings glory to God.

The three pillars of Christian stewardship—time, talent, and treasure—are essential for any music program to flourish and grow. In this spirit, the Board of Worship prayerfully invites you to consider supporting the Music Fund on a regular basis. White contribution envelopes are available in the pews, and online donations may also be made.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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