



# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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## ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



"...He made me  
into a polished  
arrow and  
concealed me in  
His quiver."  
Isaiah 49:2

**SECOND SUNDAY** AFTER **Epiphany**  
JANUARY 18, 2026

## WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S HOLY COMMUNION

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For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- *Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?*
- *Are you sorry for your sin?*
- *Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?*
- *Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?*
- *Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?*

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

## AS WE GATHER

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People often speak about a person's calling in life. They are describing a unique purpose or vocation according to interests and talents. Often, trying to determine a person's "calling" or "destiny" is defined by some innate ability or giftedness found within us, something we were born with or somehow born to do.

Today we hear of God calling otherwise ordinary fishermen Andrew and his brother Simon Peter. They were called by God through John the Baptist to follow the Messiah, the Christ, Jesus of Nazareth. They were called to be disciples and eventually to be sent on Christ's mission as apostles. The prophet Isaiah says even the Savior, the servant of the Lord, was called from the womb by God, "that Israel might be gathered to Him," and called "as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth" (Isaiah 49:5-6). Saul of Tarsus was "called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus," and Saul, now named

Paul, reminds the church at Corinth and us that we are “called to be saints” (1 Corinthians 1:1–2).

THE PRELUDE

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

688 “Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake



1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My  
2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
3 “My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,  
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex-press,  
soul’s sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - ’ry guile to free,  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
With meek-ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My  
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
In suf - f’ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e’er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.  
strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.  
of the soul And lead you to your heav’n - ly goal.”  
bat - tle’s strain The crown of heav’n - ly life ob - tain.

## INVOCATION

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

## 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** Called by God “to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”, let us give rightful praise and honor God, who calls sinners to repentance and bestows saving faith in our hearts by His Word and Spirit. Behold, the Lamb of God!
- C** Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, mercifully hear our confession. We are sinners and have sinned against You. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors with our whole heart. We cannot free ourselves from our sin. Hear our prayer of confession and let us hear Your call and gift of forgiveness, salvation, and life.
- 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.

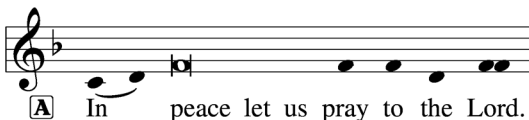
*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

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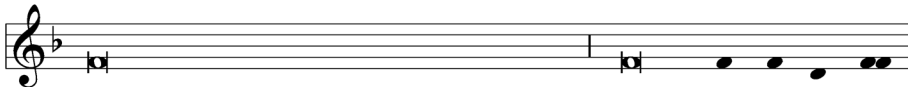
## KYRIE

*Mark 10:47*





**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



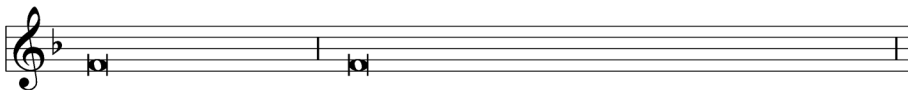
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



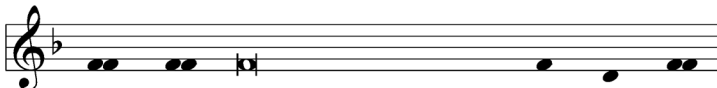
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



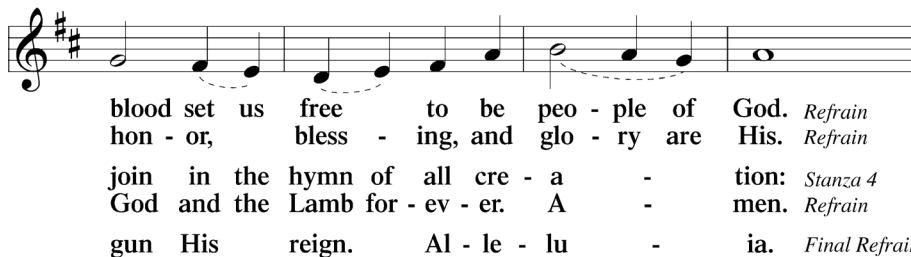
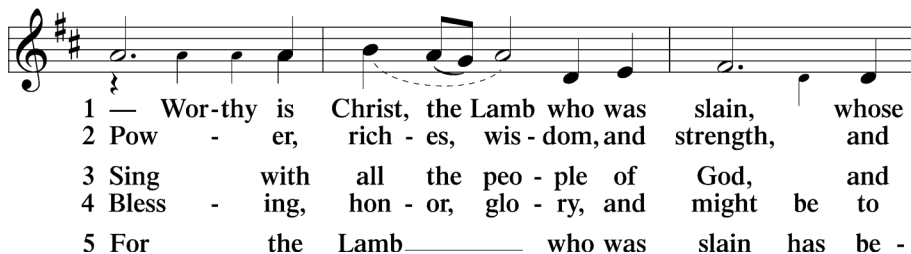
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



## THIS IS THE FEAST



## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 49:1–7*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 49.

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands,  
and give attention, you peoples from afar.  
The LORD called me from the womb,  
from the body of my mother he named my name.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
in his quiver he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

<sup>4</sup>But I said, “I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my right is with the LORD,  
and my recompense with my God.”

<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says,  
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him;  
and that Israel might be gathered to him —  
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,  
and my God has become my strength —  
<sup>6</sup>he says:

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
 and to bring back the preserved of Israel;  
 I will make you as a light for the nations,  
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”  
 7Thus says the LORD,  
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,  
 the servant of rulers:  
 “Kings shall see and arise;  
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;  
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalms 40:1–11; antiphon: v. 3*

**A** I waited patiently for the LORD;  
 he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**C** He drew me up from the pit of destruction,  
 out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock,  
 making my steps secure.

**A** He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.  
 Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

**C** Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,  
 who does not turn to the proud,  
 to those who go astray after a lie!

**A** You have multiplied, O LORD my God,  
 your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
 none can compare with you!  
 I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

**C** Sacrifice and offering you have not desired,  
 but you have given me an open ear.  
 Burnt offering and sin offering  
 you have not required.



- A** Then I said, “Behold, I have come;  
in the scroll of the book it is written of me:
- C** **I desire to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart.”**
- A** I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;  
behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.
- C** **I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness  
from the great congregation.**
- A** As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me;  
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:1–9*

- A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.

- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*



HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:29–42a

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>29</sup>The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

<sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup>He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup>He brought him to Jesus.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON HYMN

716 I Walk in Danger All the Way



1 I walk in dan - ger all the way. The thought shall nev - er  
2 I pass through tri - als all the way, With sin and ills con -  
3 And death pur - sues me all the way, No - where I rest se -  
4 I walk with an - gels all the way, They shield me and be -

leave me That Sa - tan, who has marked his prey, Is  
tend - ing; In pa - tience I must bear each day The  
cure - ly; He comes by night, he comes by day, He  
friend me; All Sa - tan's pow'r is held at bay When

plot - ting to de - ceive me. This foe with hid - den snares  
cross of God's own send - ing. When in ad - ver - si - ty  
takes his prey most sure - ly. A fail - ing breath, and I  
heav'n - ly hosts at - tend me; They are my sure de - fense,

May seize me un - a - wares If I should fail to  
I know not where to flee, When storms of woe my  
In death's strong grasp may lie To face e - ter - ni -  
All fear and sor - row, hence! Un - harmed by foes, do

watch and pray. I walk in dan - ger all the way.  
soul dis - may, I pass through tri - als all the way.  
ty to - day As death pur - sues me all the way.  
what they may, I walk with an - gels all the way.

SERMON

I Am Ready to Shoot You to the Mark

Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand

NICENE CREED

☐ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

*Kneel*

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- ❏ Confident that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake and that our heavenly Father is ready to hear our prayers, let us go to Him on behalf of ourselves, those near and dear to us, and the Church around the world.

For the leaders of the Church around the world who, like Isaiah, may question their ministry amid continued opposition, that God would remind them of His presence and move them to renewed vigor as they shine the light of Christ on the dark places of this globe, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P** For those who grow crops, tend flocks, distribute food, and alleviate hunger, that God would give them favorable weather, bountiful harvests, and the resources they need as they serve Him and work to meet the needs of people in their neighborhoods and in distant lands, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P** For those who lack decent clothing, secure shelter, and adequate nourishment, that God would surround them with caring people to meet their physical needs and share with them the forgiveness of sins won for them by Christ, the Lamb of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P** For those who labor in governments, those who go into harm's way as first responders, police forces, and deployed troops, and those who teach in schools at all levels, that God would keep them safe and give them wisdom and courage to do His will, let us pray to the Lord.





**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, Lord our God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

## OFFERING

<b>Ways to Give</b>	<b>IN-PERSON</b>	<b>MAIL</b>	<b>ONLINE VANCO</b>		 <a href="mailto:directpay@stjohnslagrang.org">directpay@stjohnslagrang.org</a>	
		505 S Park Road La Grange IL 60525				

*Stand*



**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.

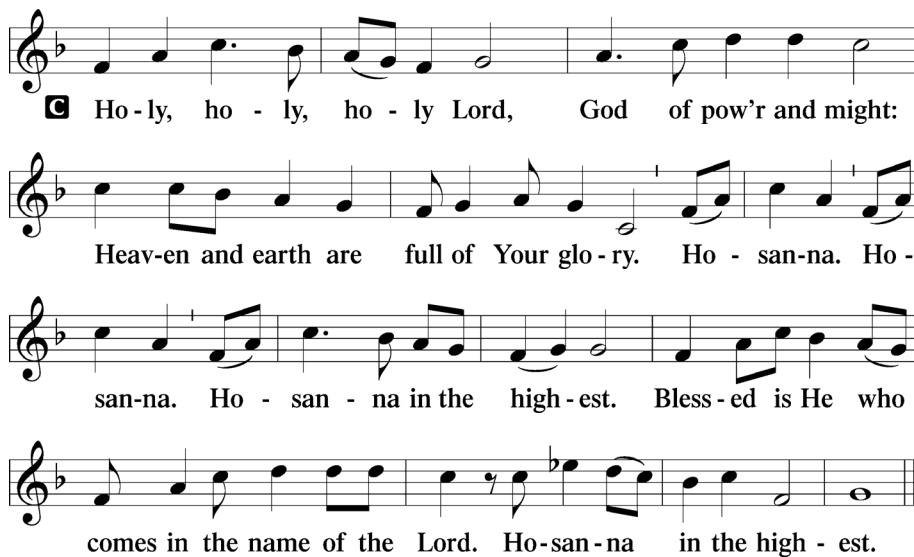
## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in

the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the

dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

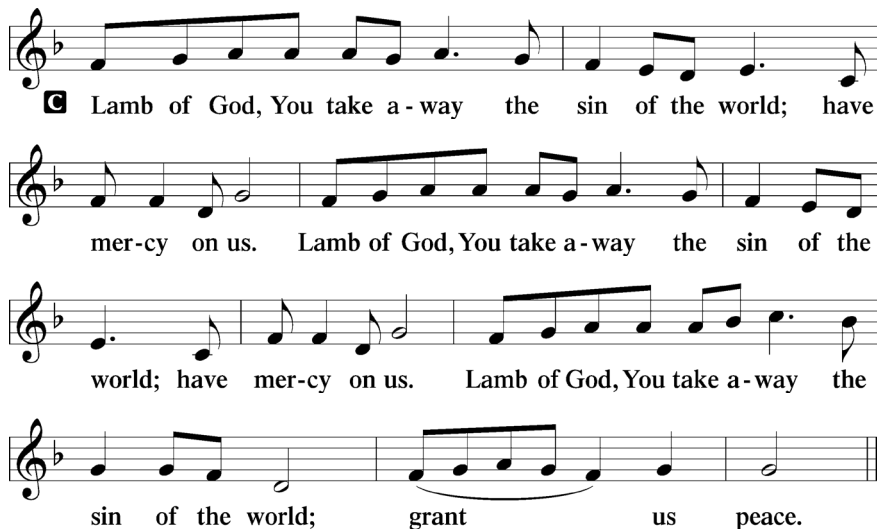
**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name, thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

## AGNUS DEI



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.





1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;  
 3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,  
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my  
 My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my  
 Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's  
 Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!  
 love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!  
 tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.  
 trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

## 402 The Only Son from Heaven



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient seers,  
 2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!  
 3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en To know and love You more,



By God the Fa - ther giv - en, In hu - man form ap - pears.  
 He comes, the king a - noint - ed, The Christ, the vir - gin - born,  
 In faith to stand un - shak - en, In spir - it to a - dore,




No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly  
 Grim death to van - quish for us, To o - pen heav'n be -  
 That we, through this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en



shin - ing As He, our Morn - ing Star.  
 fore us And bring us life a gain.  
 prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.

*Stand*

## THE DISMISSAL

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  in peace.

**C** Amen.

## THANK THE LORD



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT


**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## 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

517 By All Your Saints in Warfare

1 By all Your saints in the war-fare, For  
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa-ther And  
all Your saints at rest, Your ho-ly name, O  
wor-ship God the Son And sing to God the  
Je-sus, For-ev-er-more be blest! For  
Spir-it, E-ter-nal Three in One, Till  
You have won the bat-tle That they might wear the  
all the ran-somed num-ber Fall down be-fore the  
crown; And now they shine in glo-ry  
throne, As-crib-ing pow'r and glo-ry  
Re-flect-ed from Your  
And praise to God a-lone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist  
Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist  
JoAnn Pyritz, Lector | 8:00am  
Bonnie Kane, Lector | 10:45am

## MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S



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

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

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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