

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinabek Nations, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase, Treaty 13 of 1805, and the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today, our community is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We gather by these territorial lands and waters to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lent One

February 18, 2023

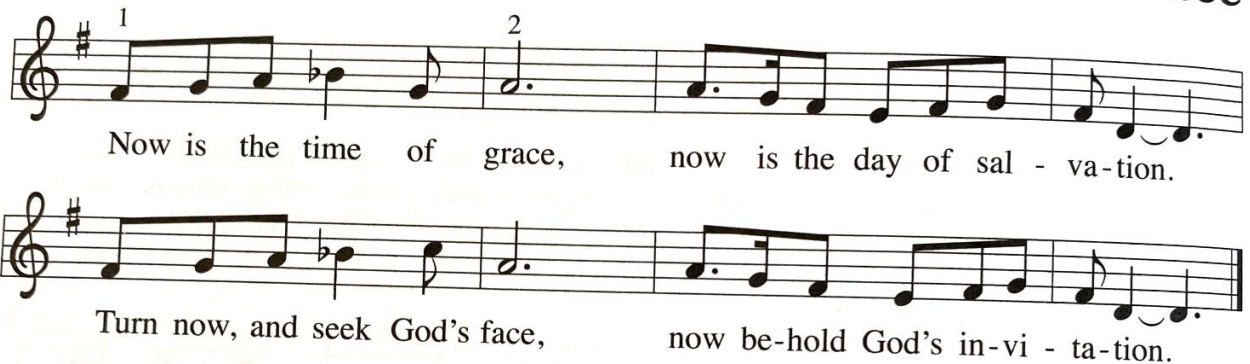
PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

ACS # 918 NOW IS THE TIME OF GRACE

Congregation



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It contains two phrases of music. The first phrase starts with a first ending bracket over the first two measures, and the second phrase starts with a second ending bracket over the last two measures. The lyrics are: "Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion." The second staff is identical in notation to the first, with the lyrics: "Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in-vi - ta-tion."

Leader:

*This is the fast that God would choose,
To loose the bonds of injustice,
To let the captives go free,
And to break the yoke of oppression*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you call us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

HYMN ELW # 326 BLESS NOW, O GOD, THE JOURNEY

**Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.**

**Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors, whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking the road where faith is found.**

**Divine Eternal Lover, you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.**

PSALM 25

To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

O my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame;
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
**for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
**remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness', O Lord!**

You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You lead the lowly in justice,
and teach the lowly your way.

All your paths, O Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe have no power over us, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GENESIS 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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

1 PETER 3:18-22

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One does not live by bread alone,

But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

MARK 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

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

SERMON

HYMN ELW # 325 I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME

**I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

THE CELTIC CREED

**We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.**

**He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life.**

Amen.

PRAYERS

SINGING INTO PRAYER ACS #1075 O GOD WE CALL

**O God we call. O God we call.
From deep inside we yearn. From deep inside we yearn.
From deep inside we yearn for you.**

A brief silence

Lord, in your mercy.....hear our prayer.

SINGING INTO PEACE ACS #1075 O GOD WE CALL

O God we call. **O God we call.**

From deep inside we yearn. **From deep inside we yearn.**

From deep inside we yearn for you.

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

The offering will now be received and may God bless the gifts of your life

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God triune, majestic is your name in all the earth.

Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home,

A fragile tree of life.

Here by your wisdom are both life and death,

Growth and decay, the nest and the hunt,

Sunshine and storm, darkness and light.

Sustained by these wonders,

We creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.

In Christ you bring life from death;

We remember his cross, we laud his resurrection.

Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.

Out poured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.

Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**
We praise you for the heart of Jesus,
So filled with your love for this earth.
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.
Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**
O God triune, you create the worlds,
You uphold the living, you embrace the dead.
Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal,
The body and blood of Christ.
Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.
Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise
you again:
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**
Amen, amen.
Amen, amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart.

Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.. **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY COMMUNION

you are invited to eat your bread and drink your wine as you hear the words
“the body of Christ given for you” “the blood of Christ shed for you”

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us always in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage; may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour and give you + peace.

Amen.

HYMN ELW # 624 JESUS STILL LEAD ON

Jesus, still lead on, Till our rest be won!

And although the way be cheerless,

We will follow, calm and fearless;

Guide us by your hand To the promised land.

If the way be drear, If the foe be near,

Let not faithless fears o'ertake us,

Let no faithless hope forsake us;

Safely past the foe, To our home we go!

When we seek relief From a long-felt grief

When temptations come alluring,

Make us patient and enduring;

Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more!

**Jesus, still lead on, Till our rest be won!
Heavenly Leader, still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us,
Till we safely stand In the promised land.**

DISMISSAL

Marked by the cross of Christ,
go forth to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE