



The Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of the Holy Trinity  
Cocoa and Granada Avenues  
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033  
(717) 533-2467

Sunday, January 28, 2024  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

*In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.*

***Let us prepare for Worship.***

**GATHERING**

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

**GATHERING PRELUDE:** *(text for reflection, ELW 614)*

*There Is a Balm in Gilead* ..... David Cherwien  
*Balm in Gilead* ..... Mark Shepperd

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

✠ *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

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

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

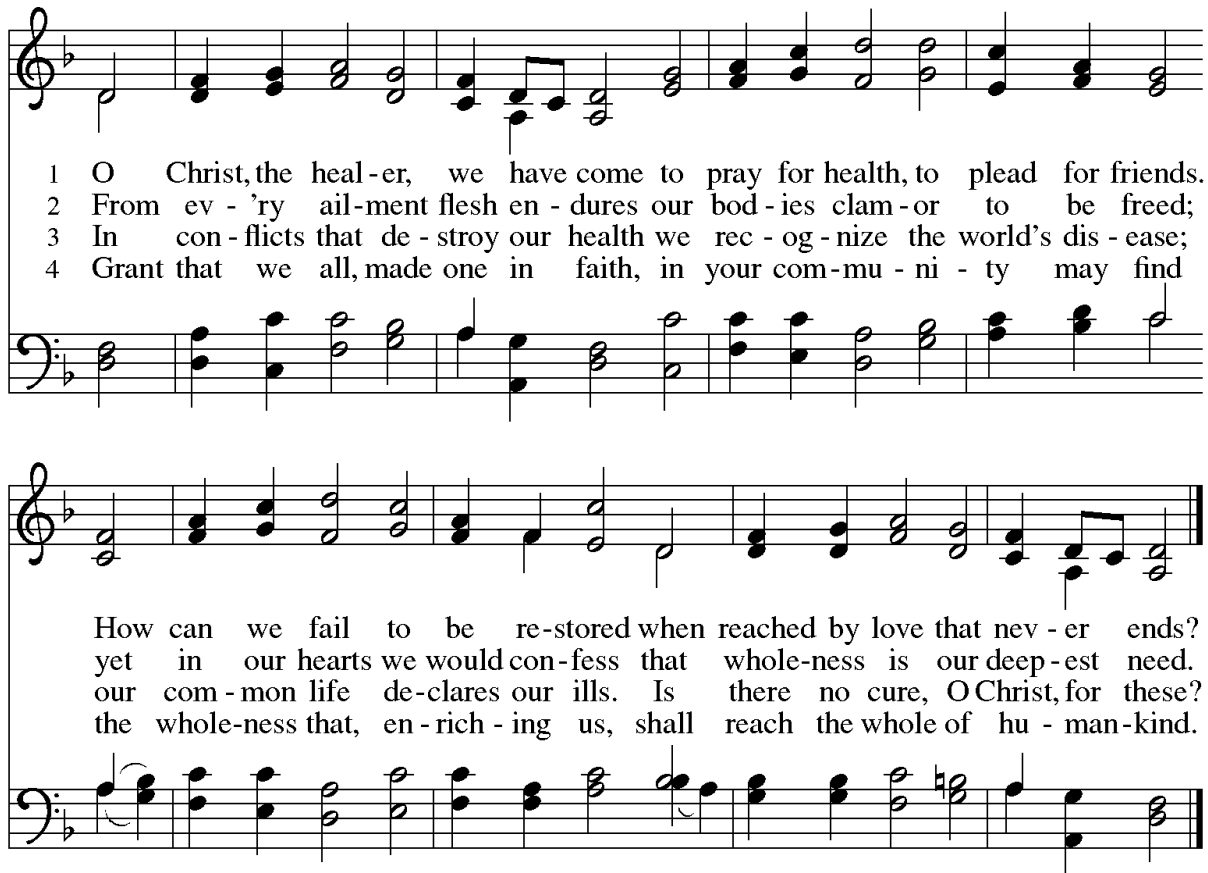
P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**All: 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.**

P: 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.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come* .....ELW 610



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.  
 2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;  
 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;  
 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find

How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
 yet in our hearts we would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep - est need.  
 our com - mon life de-clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
 the whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
 Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835  
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## GREETING

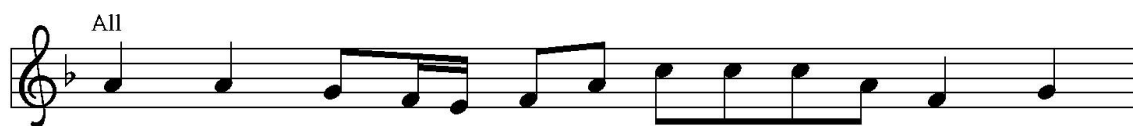
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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 take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.*

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

### Psalm 111 (Congregation sings the refrain and bold verses.)

Refrain:



Verse:



<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with <sup>|</sup> my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the <sup>|</sup> congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your <sup>|</sup> works, O LORD,**  
**pondered by all who de- <sup>|</sup> light in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor <sup>|</sup> mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness en- <sup>|</sup> dures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to <sup>|</sup> be remembered;**  
**you are gracious and full <sup>|</sup> of compassion. R**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to <sup>|</sup> those who fear you,  
remembering forev- <sup>|</sup> er your covenant.

**<sup>6</sup>You have shown your people the power<sup>1</sup> of your works  
in giving them the lands<sup>1</sup> of the nations.**

**<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithful-<sup>1</sup>ness and justice;  
all of your pre-<sup>1</sup>cepts are sure.**

**<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forev-<sup>1</sup>er and ever,  
because they are done in<sup>1</sup> truth and equity. R**

**<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove-<sup>1</sup>nant forever;  
holy and awesome<sup>1</sup> is your name.**

**<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the begin-<sup>1</sup>ning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en-<sup>1</sup>dures forever. R**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

P: Word of God, word of life.

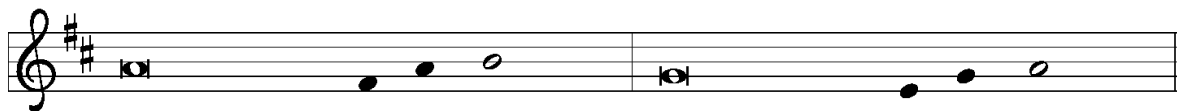
All: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Refrain:



Verse:



The people who sat in darkness have seen <sup>1</sup> a great light;\* for those who sat in the shadow of death <sup>1</sup> light has dawned. (*Matt. 4:16*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

*Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.*

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Cast Out, O Christ*..... ACS 1016

1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the  
2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are  
3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you  
4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that  
5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the

de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that  
 Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -  
 sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you  
 break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,  
 de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to

choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.  
 plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.  
 brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.  
 home in peace to live your gos - pel call.  
 sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003

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## 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of grace,  
**All: Receive our prayer.**

## MEAL

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

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## SHARING OF PEACE

*The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

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

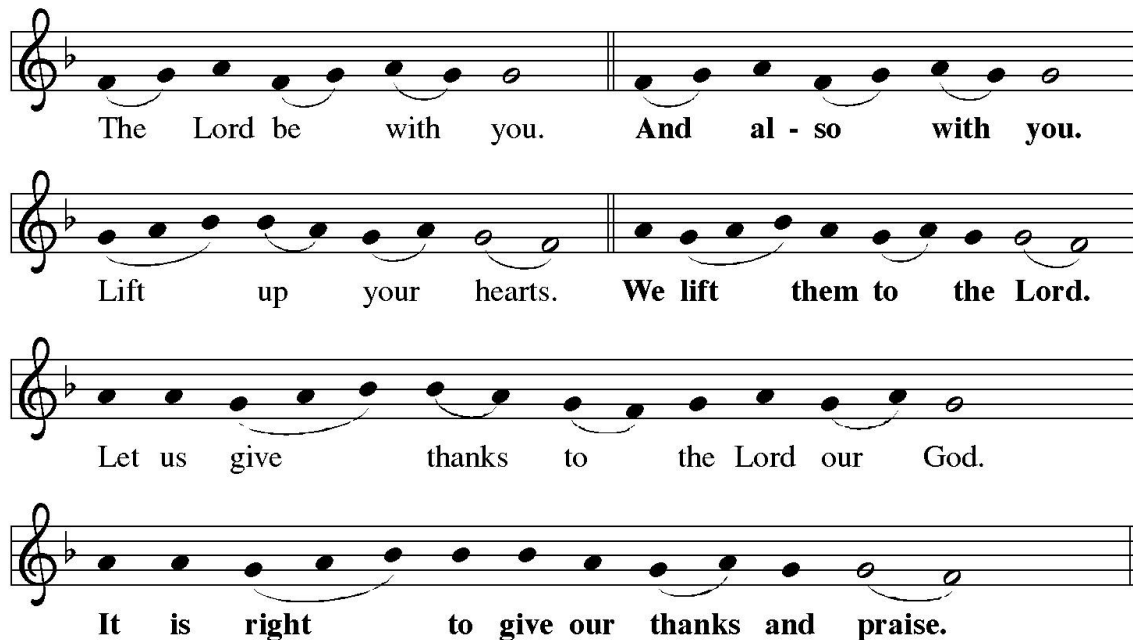
*Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plate at the entrance to worship or in the Offering Box on the table with the bulletins.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

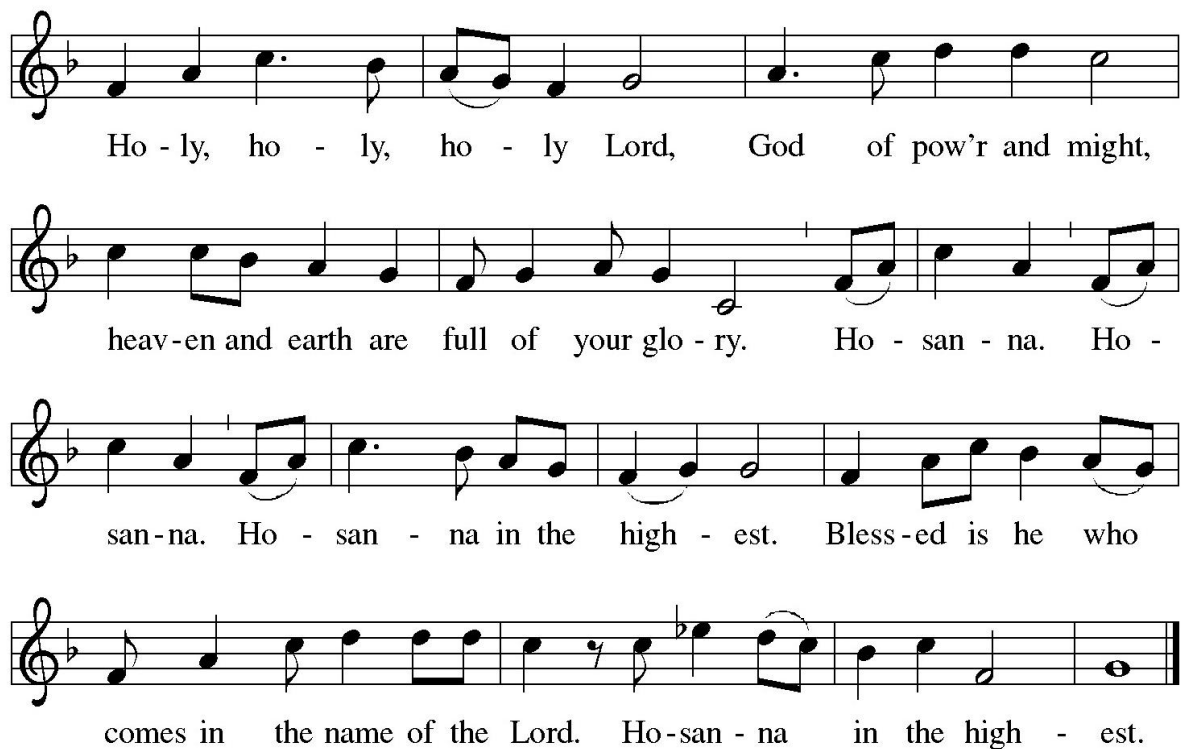
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



## PREFACE

.....And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### 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;  
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

**P:** We find God's abundant life for us in this meal.  
**All:** Thanks be to God.

## COMMUNION SONG

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.

## COMMUNION MUSIC:

*Healer of Our Every Ill (Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)..... ELW 612*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

## SENDING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... 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.

All: Amen.

## BLESSING

P: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,  
who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name,  
✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

All: Amen.

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

**DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETIN IN THE CHURCH TODAY**

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by the Stine family. The bulletin is given with love in celebration of Steve Shuey on his birthday by his family.

**SERVING TODAY**

**Assisting Minister:** ..... Chip Haak  
**Communion Assistants:** ..... Jim Huebner and Kendra Ruhl  
**Livestream:** ..... Kirk Sponaugle  
**Reader:** ..... Danielle Mariano  
**Torch Bearers and Crucifer:** ..... Kiva Fox, Sydney Keeler and Jordan Paul



Dear Lord Jesus, When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You on behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name's sake. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY**

**Prayer Concerns:** Roberta Anderson, Bob Bettleyon, Jim Bomberger (friend of Jim and Peg Huebner), Dennis Buchanan (Mary Ann Kelly's cousin), Kinleigh Connelly (friend of the Eby family), Karen Savage Critchfield (friend of Kendra Ruhl), Donna Dixon, Theo Epitropoulos, Suzy Epler, Janice Geiling, Lee Geiling (Bobbie Brehm's brother), Bonnie Hess (friend of the Weavers), Glenn Hoffa, Ben Housman (husband of Anita Housman), Mary Huebner, Ruth Knol, Anita Lodes, Audrey Mann, Nancy Miller, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, Linda Ott, Dona Pastuck, Ed Peterson, Tom Rieger, Bob Sibert, Michelle Spaeder (friend of Karen Kline), Pete Stone, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Mike Welty.

**DAILY PRAYERS**

Alex Chubb, Elaine Chubb, Kelly D'Adderio (cousin of Naomi and Whitney Powell), Jerry Fickling (friend of Karen Kline), Virginia Frank, Rosa Vena Homisak (Bob Homisak's mother), Dennis Lubold, Ken Milliken, Toookie Peterson, Ed Schaeffer, Lyndel Strickler (neighbor of Ruth and Jack Knol), Irene Turzai, Melissa West (friend of Susan Bianchi), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all of our Homebound members.

**Members of Armed Forces and their families:** Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, Patrick Stewart, Tory Young

*We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at [htluth@comcast.net](mailto:htluth@comcast.net) or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.*