



# St. John's Lutheran Church

4842 Nicollet Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419  
www.stjohnsmpls.org

*Fueled by Christ's redeeming love,  
St. John's is called into a joyful life of  
welcoming hospitality, grace-filled  
worship, transformational relationships,  
and Gospel-driven service in the world.  
St. John's is an RIC congregation.*

*A vibrant community living faith boldly through Welcoming, Worshiping, Healing, and Serving*

## SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

*Second Sunday after Epiphany*

January 14, 2024

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*Welcome! Whether in the pews or online, whether for the first time or you've come more times than you can count, we are glad you are here. You are welcome to participate in every part of the worship service, including Holy Communion. Those of you joining online are invited to prepare a cracker or piece of bread and some juice or wine for partaking at that point in the service. Those in person are encouraged to sit in the forward half of the sanctuary both for audio and visual benefit. You're invited to create and wear a name tag, and to fill out a white Fellowship Card from your pew rack if you wish and hand it to an usher.*

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### PRELUDE

*Christ, Be Our Light*

Anne Krentz Organ

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
creator of darkness and light, word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,  
**we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit  
dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation.**

**Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

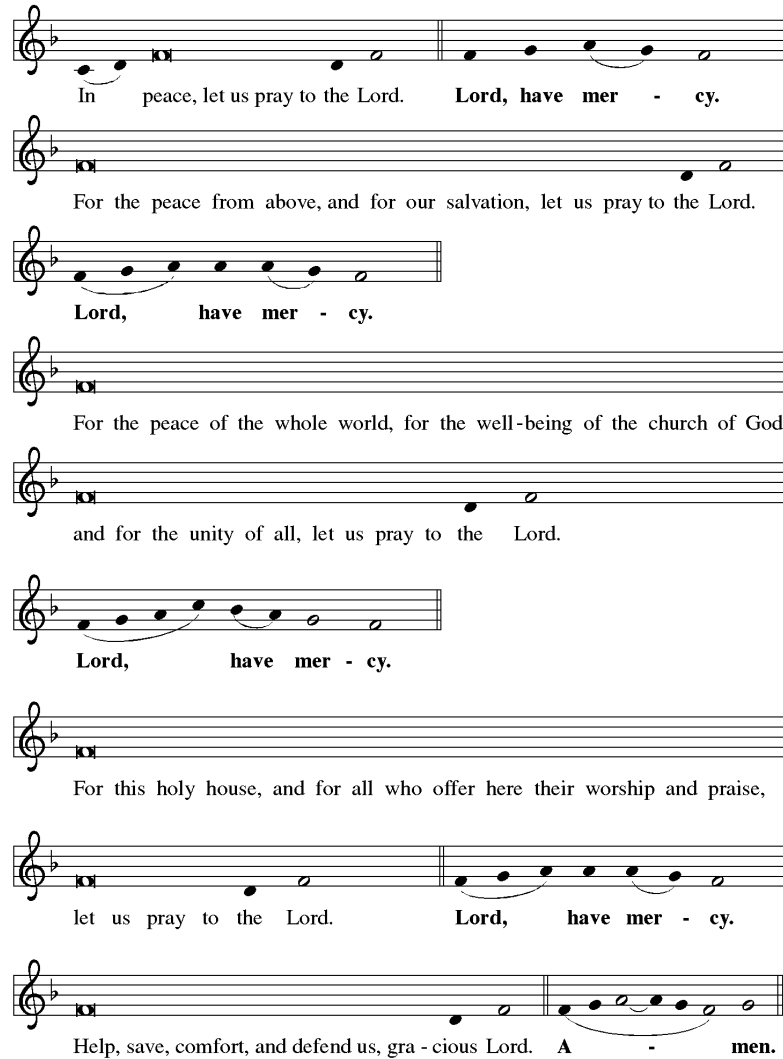
**Amen.**

**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** (*ELW Setting 3*)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

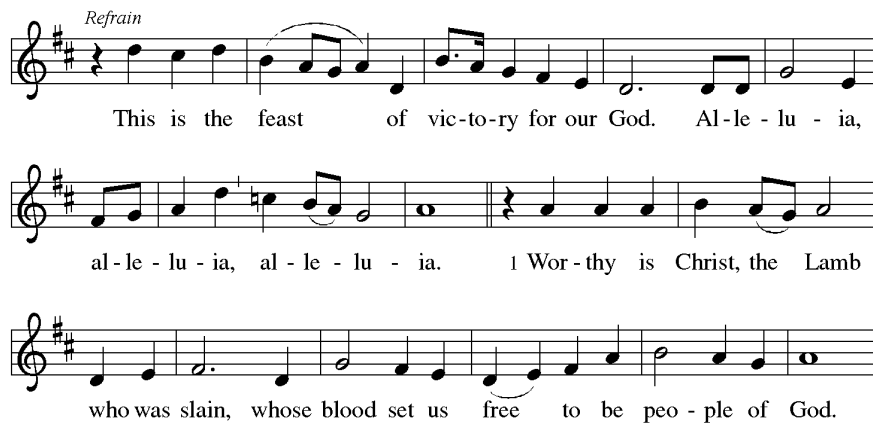
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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

**HYMN OF PRAISE**



*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. I Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*(continued)*

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**God of the Word, in the parable of the sower you showed us how your word can take root and grow within us. Nurture the seeds of your word in our hearts and help us to grow in faith and love. Amen.**

*During the singing of verses 1 & 3 of the canticle, children of every age are invited to come forward to the front pews to join Edith for the Faith Formation Moment. Visitors are welcome!*

## SCRIPTURE CANTICLE

### *This Little Light of Mine*

ELW 677

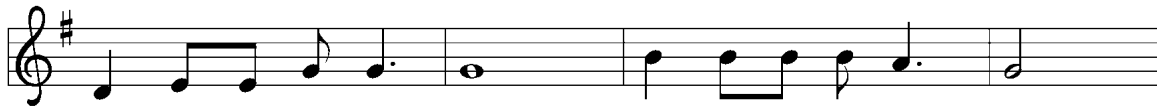
(vv. 1 & 3 before, v. 3 after)



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## WORD OF THE WEEK

Edith Bohardt

*After the Word of the Week, children may return to be with their families in the pews or go to 'Grace Space' at the back of the sanctuary while the people sing verse 3 of "This Little Light."*

Please join in the responsive reading from Psalm 126.

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

**<sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then it was said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great things for them."

**<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we rejoiced.**

<sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

**<sup>5</sup>May those who sow in tears  
reap with shouts of joy.**

<sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 4:1-34

The holy gospel according to Mark, the fourth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.

<sup>2</sup>He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup>Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup>Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." <sup>9</sup>And he said, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

<sup>10</sup>When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; <sup>12</sup>in order that

'they may indeed look, but not perceive,  
and may indeed listen, but not understand;  
so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.'"

*(continued)*

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. <sup>18</sup>And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>20</sup>And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

<sup>21</sup>He said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? <sup>22</sup>For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. <sup>23</sup>Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" <sup>24</sup>And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. <sup>25</sup>For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."

<sup>26</sup>He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

## SERMON

Pastor Mark Tiede

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Christ Be Our Light*

ELW 715 (vv. 1, 2, 5)

## APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 THE CHURCH

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, O God of truth. Let all leaders of your church ordained and the laity be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Delight in the goodness of your creation, O God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disasters. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, O God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. We pray for the residents of Cloquet, MN as they heal from the gun violence on Monday. We also pray for all who are ill or recovering from surgeries. Today we especially pray for Kathy Cashin, Brian Conrad, Bruce Walker, Jan Sammelson, Lana Tiede, Debbie Tuvey, George Tuvey, Nels Tuvey, Debra Jacobs, Sandy Rader, Kris Schepers, Karen O., Jeannie C, Kris Roe, and others we name in our hearts . . .  
... *An intentional moment of silence* . . . . . You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

So inspire and empower this congregation to do your work in the world, O God of unity. Hold us faithful as we build communities of warm welcome, inclusion, and mutual care. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

## OFFERING

*The ways of financially contributing to St. John's ministry are listed on the 'Worship Notes' page of this bulletin.*

### Musical Offering

*A Faithful Shepherd Is My Lord*  
St. John's Choir

Arr. Carl Stein

**A word about 'The Offering'** *The offering is an important part of Christian worship. In all other parts of the liturgy we receive from God forgiveness, love, peace and hope. In the offering we actively participate in God's grace by giving. The Offering Cards available in the pew racks are for you to place in the offering plate as a representation of your financial contributions given electronically and of your non-financial generosity. Your offerings, offering cards, and pledge cards may be placed in the offering plates set near the sanctuary entrances. These are then presented to God as your weekly offering.*

## OFFERTORY

### *He Came Down*

ELW 253 (vv. 1 & 3)



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

## OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

ELW 737 (vv. 1-2, 4-5)



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

### *Communion Note:*

***All are welcome at the Lord's Table.***

*Communion will be served in continuous fashion as directed by the Ushers. Wafers, wine (red) and grape juice (white) are offered. Anyone choosing to not commune is welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. If you would like communion brought to you in the pew, please let an Usher know.*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ nourish you, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

*Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

**ELW 314**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

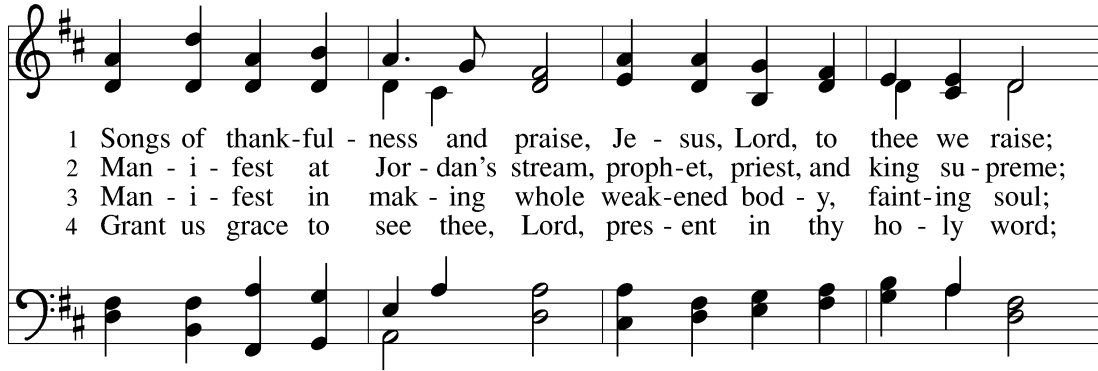
### **POSTLUDE**

*Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

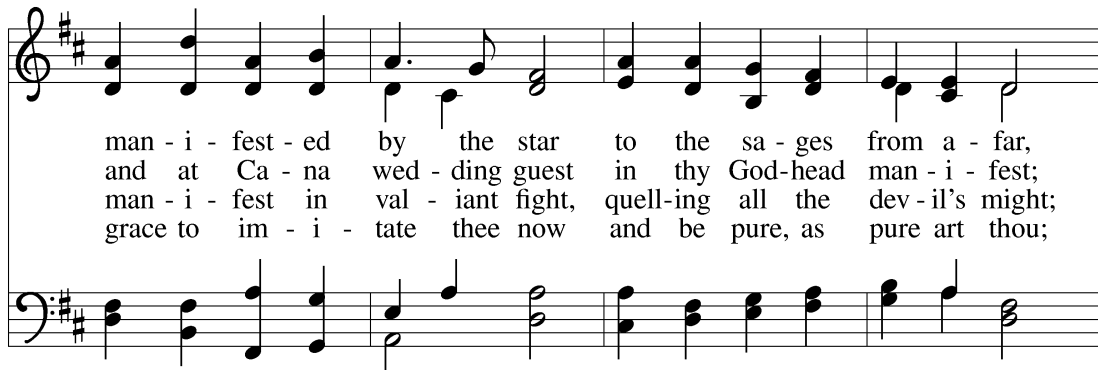
Glenn Wonacott

# Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

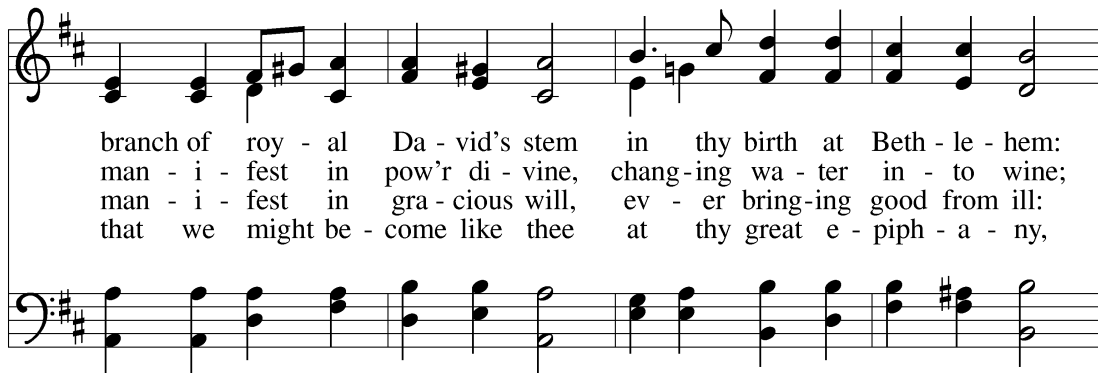
vv. 1, 2 & 4



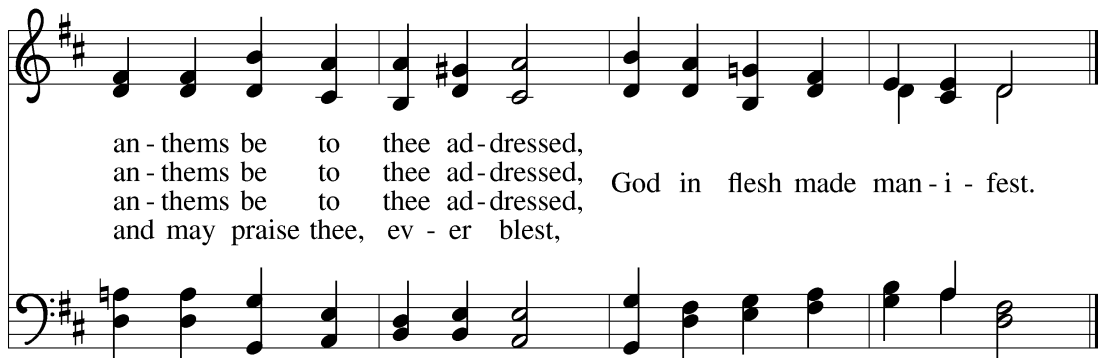
1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



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,

# Christ, Be Our Light

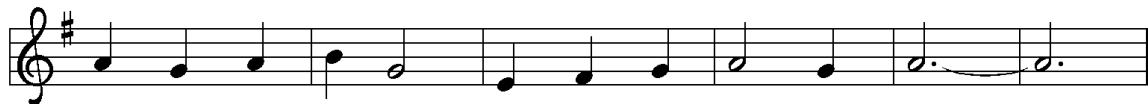
vv. 1, 2 & 5



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



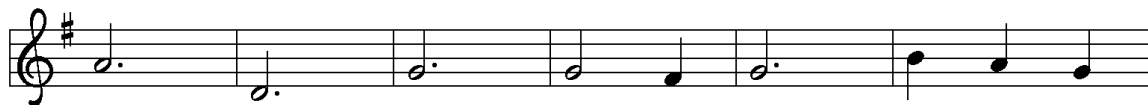
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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## Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in A major (two sharps). The treble staff contains a melody with a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar rhythmic patterns and harmonic support, ending with a double bar line.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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## WORSHIP NOTES

- **Worship is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings in person and online**
  - ◊ Live on YouTube (link posted on St. John's Facebook page and website).
- Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday.
- Nursery care is available upstairs in Grace Place, 9:30-12:30 on Sunday mornings.
- Activities for children are available at the back of the sanctuary in Grace Space.
- "The Story at Home" devotional sheets are available at the entrances.
- Fellowship time is offered each Sunday following worship.

**The Offering** is an important part of Christian worship. In addition to placing your offering in the plate, you may also contribute offerings to the ministries of St. John's by:

- **TEXT** the word 'Give' to 612-800-0444 and follow the prompts,
- **GIVE** through our website or your Breeze member app, or
- **MAIL** your check to: St. John's Lutheran Church  
4842 Nicollet Ave,  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

St. John's 'Guest' WiFi pw: #MartinLuther

## Reading for January 21 - Epiphany 3

Mark 5:1-20 (Psalm 89:1-4)

## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister:  
*Mark Tiede*

Organist/  
Minister of Music:  
*Peder Flaten*

Assisting Minister:  
*Graham Zima*

Communion Preparer:  
*Deborah Dunham*

Usher:  
*Larry Fraser*

Media Specialist  
*Matthew Tiede*

Media Volunteers:  
*Dylan Noaman*  
*Eleanor Nervig*  
*Sam Nervig*

Offering Counters:  
*Bonnie Conrad*  
*Jeanne Tuvey*

Fellowship Host:  
*Sharon Koschak*

## Church Council

President:  
*Jennifer Burdick*

Vice President:  
*Rick Falcon*

Secretary:  
*Bonnie Conrad*

Treasurer:  
*JoAnn Christoferson*

At Large:  
*Deborah Dunham*  
*Sharon Koschak*

*Anne Nervig*

## St. John's Staff

Pastor:

*Mark Tiede*

Organist/

Minister of Music:

*Peder Flaten*

Cross+Generational

Ministry Director

*Edith Bobardt*

Nursery Attendant

*Diane Harayda*

Assistant for Ministry

*Ann Paulson*

Office Volunteer:

*Deborah Dunham*

Bookkeeper:

*David Roinas*

Media & Marketing

Specialist:

*Matthew Tiede*

Custodians:

*Joseph Sabai* (Day)

*Manuela Solorzano* (Sunday)

Dir. of Child Care Center

*Tina Shear*

Chi Rho Center Manager

*Dave Helm*

## Ministry Teams

Administration

Chi Rho Center

Child Care Center

Community &

Neighborhood

Cross+Generational

Facilities

Foundation

Music Series

Worship

**Website:**

[www.stjohnsmpls.org](http://www.stjohnsmpls.org)

**Facebook:**

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## Our Life Together

### *Today*

**Nursery for age 3 and younger, 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**

**Grace Place learning for children, 11:15 a.m.** (top floor)

**Fellowship & Packing of Backpacks** following worship (FH)

**Lutheranism 101** following worship (Chapel)

**Worship Committee, 11:15 a.m.** (Lounge)

### *Tuesday, January 16*

**Faith Practice & Neighboring Practices Cohort, 6-9 p.m.** at LCCR

**Metropolitan Men's Choir, 7 p.m.** (FH)

### *Wednesday, January 17*

**SJ Bells, 6 p.m.** (Sanctuary)

**Confirmation at Bethlehem, 6:30 p.m.**

### *Thursday, January 18—Backpack Delivery*

**Game Meet Up, 6—8 p.m.** (FH)

### *Saturday, January 20*

**Metropolitan Men's Choir, 9 a.m.** (FH)

**Minneapolis Brass, 9 a.m.** (Sanctuary)

### *Sunday, January 21 — Epiphany 3*

**Worship with Holy Communion, 10 a.m.** in person & online

**Grace Place learning, 11:15 a.m.**

**Fellowship** following worship (FH)

**MEET UP FOR GAMES, Thursday, January 18, 6-8 p.m.** at St. John's!

Come to fellowship hall with your favorite game and a snack to share if willing and able. Fun for all ages and stages. If you don't have a game, the church has several to choose from.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JOHN'S CONGREGATION** for the purpose of approving a ministry budget for 2024 will be held on **Sunday, January 28** following worship. Members are urged to attend. The 2024 budget proposal will be available for review ahead of time.

**HELP COLLECT TOWELS:** Missionary Circle invites the congregation to bring new/gently used towels as well as winterwear during January for donation to homeless shelters for use by residents. Donations may be left on the office lobby pew. If you order items to be delivered to the church, please let the office know so that we can watch for the delivery.

*Coming in February:*

- **St. John's Chili AND Cornbread Contest —February 4** after worship
- **Shrove (Fat) Tuesday Party—February 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** in FH
- **Ash Wednesday Worship at St John's—February 14, 7 p.m.**

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation of the**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).**

**Our Mission:**

Fueled by Christ's redeeming love, St. John's is called into a joyful life of welcoming hospitality, grace-filled worship, transformational relationships, and Gospel-driven service in the world.

**Our Core Values:**

*Welcoming*

Celebrating and caring for all people. Our doors are open.  
You belong. Come as you are.

*Worshiping*

Gathering together to joyfully thank God in prayer and praise for Jesus, who calls us, centers us, and sends us into the world.

*Healing*

Reflecting God's unconditional grace and love by walking together through the joys and pains of life.

*Serving*

Gratefully responding to the needs of the world with the abilities God has gifted us.

**Our Vision for the Future:**

A vibrant community living faith boldly