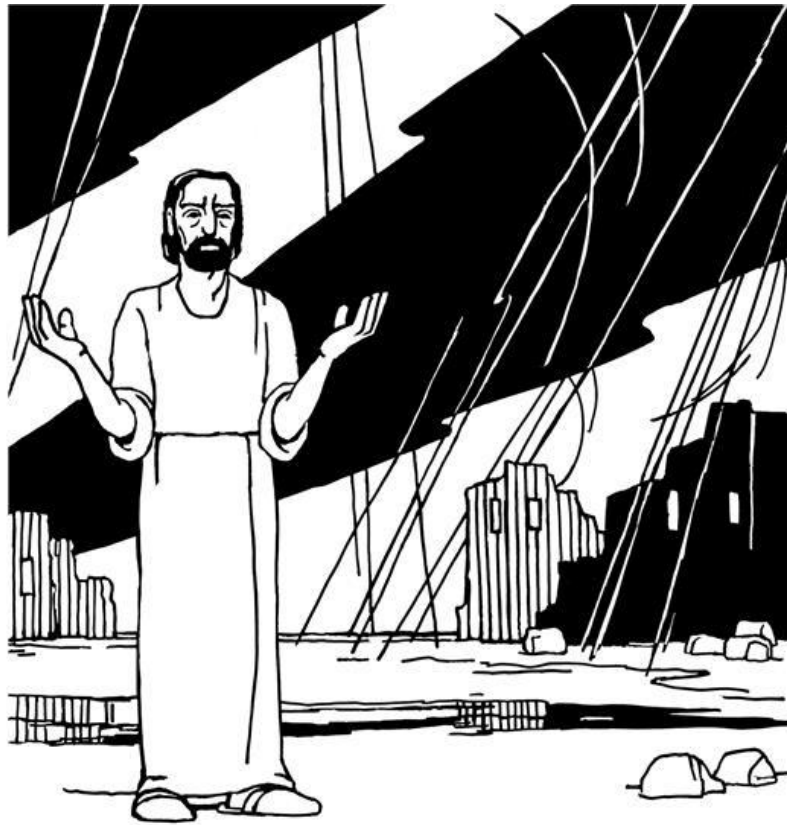




*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Sunday, November 16, 2025
23rd Sunday after Pentecost*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

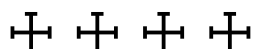


OUR VALUES STATEMENT: We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). Therefore, we welcome all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions; and work to promote anti-racism. (Adopted 4/6/25)

VISION STATEMENT: Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities.



The Liturgy is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Are you hearing impaired? If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service is being live-streamed beginning at 9:25am and will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9. The service is available to view anytime on the home page of our website: www.nlcww.org.

In-person attendance for last Sunday: 163

PLEASE MAKE SURE CELL PHONES ARE SILENCED.

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Johann Cruger
Nativity Ringers



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

Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You.

Sacrifice and offering You do not desire, but You have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.

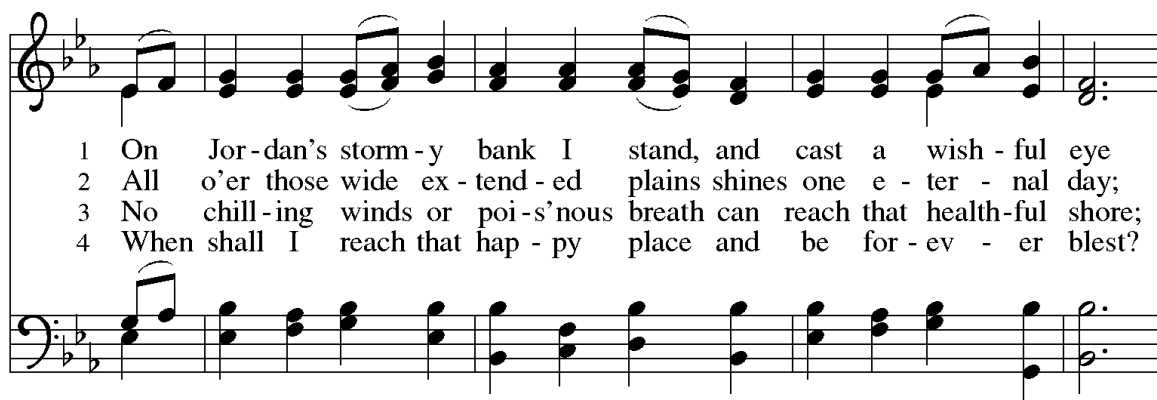
Then I said, “Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.” (Psalm 40:4-8)

Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.

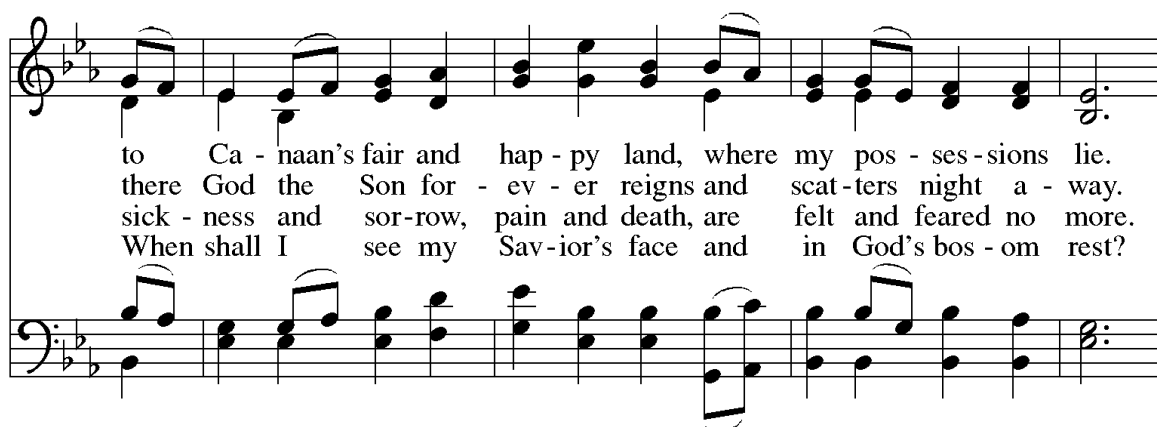
GATHERING HYMN *On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand*

437

vv 1,3,4

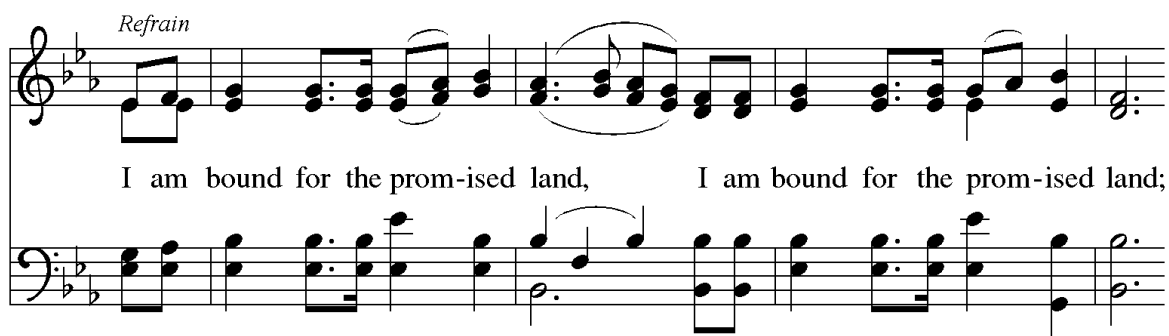


1 On Jor-dan's storm-y bank I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye
 2 All o'er those wide ex-tend-ed plains shines one e-ter-nal day;
 3 No chill-ing winds or poi-s'nous breath can reach that health-ful shore;
 4 When shall I reach that hap-py place and be for-ev-er blest?

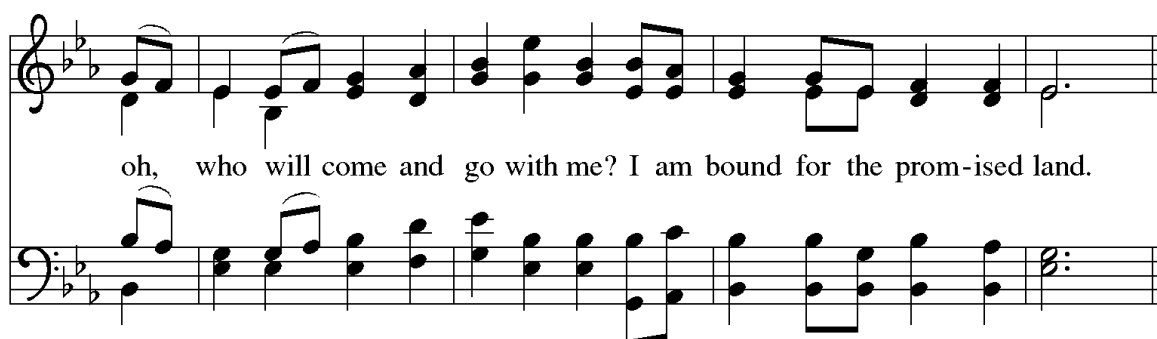


to Ca-naan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie.
 there God the Son for-ev-er reigns and scat-ters night a-way.
 sick-ness and sor-row, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.
 When shall I see my Sav-ior's face and in God's bos-om rest?

Refrain



I am bound for the prom-ised land, I am bound for the prom-ised land;



oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

PASTORAL 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

O God, the Protector of all who trust in You, without You nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with You as our Ruler and Guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



CHOIR ANTHEM

Let My Heart Be Quiet

Heather Schopf
Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

Carlan Helgeson

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS

3:6-13

Reader: Leonore Kopitzke

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we

were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

Led by Leonore Kopitzke

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, ⁶ “As

for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?”⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.”⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.”¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom;¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.”¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.”¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify.¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance,¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.”¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death.”¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name.”¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish.”¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

A moment of silence for reflection.

Merciful God, You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. **You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life You offer.** You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. **In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Lord, What a Morning

438

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to You, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You may offer your neighbor a sign of peace.

THE MEAL

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

OFFERTORY

You may place your offering in the offering basket by the baptismal font, or bring/mail to the office during the week. You may also donate on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page. You may also contribute using Venmo or Zelle if you have an account or use the QR code. For more information about these methods see today's Weekly Announcement Sheet.



Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Creator God, **in your wisdom You bring forth all that is good, and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

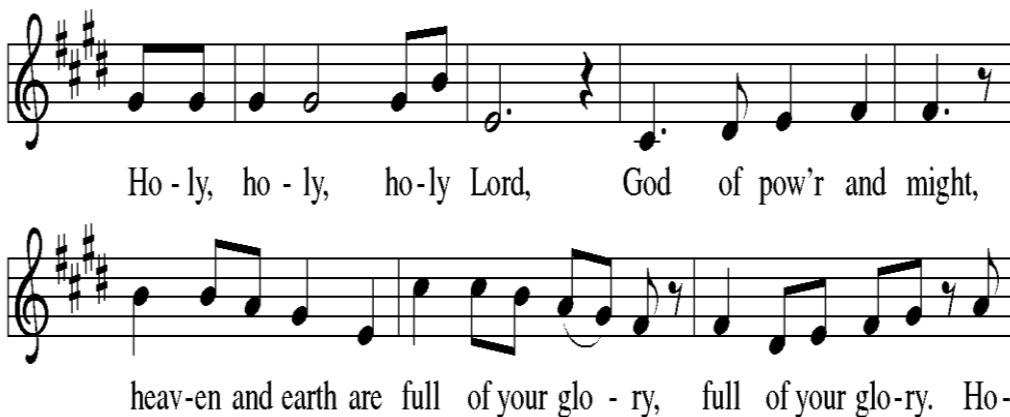
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

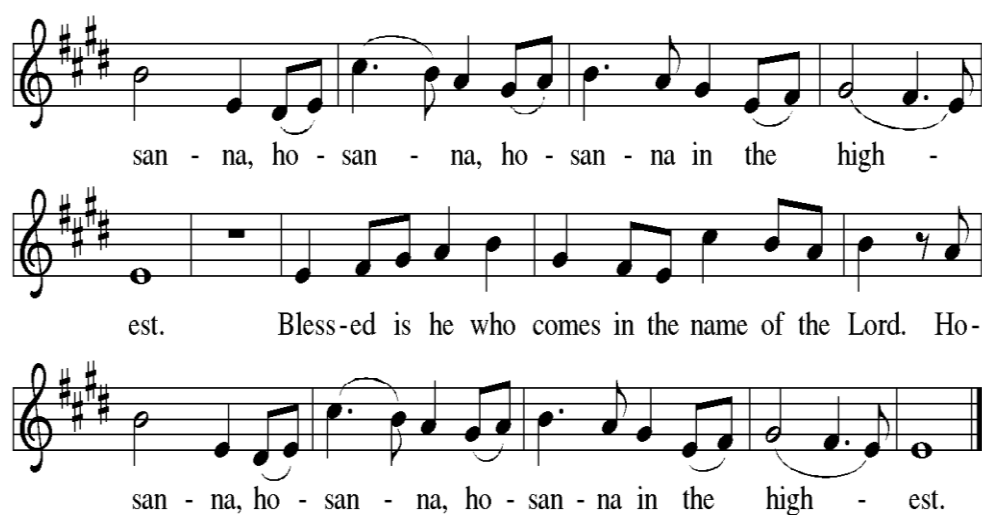
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give You thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom You sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from You, through whom You created all things, and in whom You take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin Mary. **He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for You a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust You.**

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to You, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving You thanks that You have made us worthy to stand before You and to serve You as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify You through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE 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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice! Guests and friends of any age and background, take your place at the table!

You may be seated. Each row may come to the altar starting with the front row and progressing to the back. You may stand or kneel at the communion rail and receive bread and wine (or request a gluten free host and/or grape juice). Please let an usher know if you cannot come to the altar to receive communion. We will have communion brought to you.

Lamb of God



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

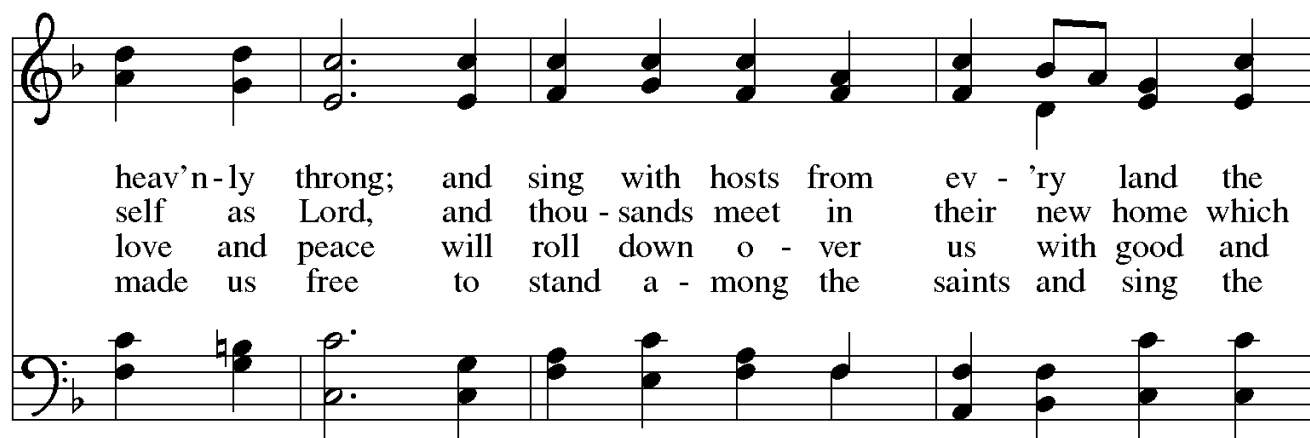
COMMUNION HYMNS Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand: 441

Spirit Song

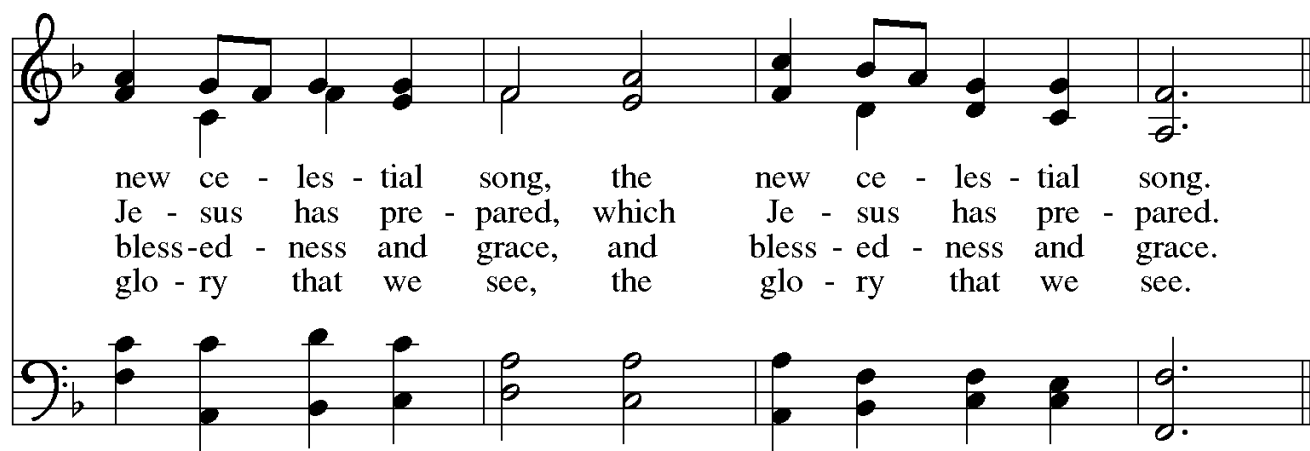
441



1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the
 2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -
 3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and
 4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has



heav'n - ly throng; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the
 self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which
 love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and
 made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the



new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song.
 Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.
 bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.
 glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

O let the Son of God enfold you

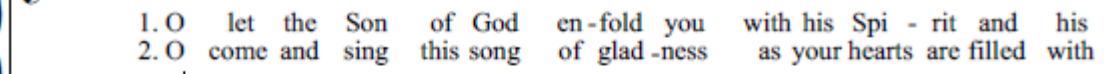
(Spirit Song)

John Wimber, 1979

John Wimber
organ arr. Raymond Luckhurst

Worshipfully unison

(solo) 

Organ 

(chorus) 

1. O let the Son of God en-fold you with his Spi - rit and his
2. O come and sing this song of glad-ness as your hearts are filled with

love; let him fill your heart and sat - is - fy your soul; O let him
joy; lift your hands in sweet sur - ren - der to his name; O give him

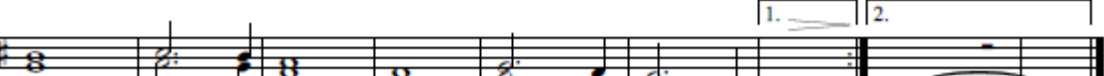
have the things that hold you and his Spi - rit like a dove, will de -
all your tears and sad ness, give him all your years of pain, and you'll

scend up-on your life and make you whole.
en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name.

Refrain harmony

(chorus) 

Je - sus, O Je - sus, come and fill our lives.



Je - sus, O Je - sus, come and fill our lives. ...lives.

COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC

The Assisting Minister puts away the communion trays and covers the paten and chalice.

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Mothering God, **You gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.**



BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Soon and Very Soon

439
vv 1,2,3



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

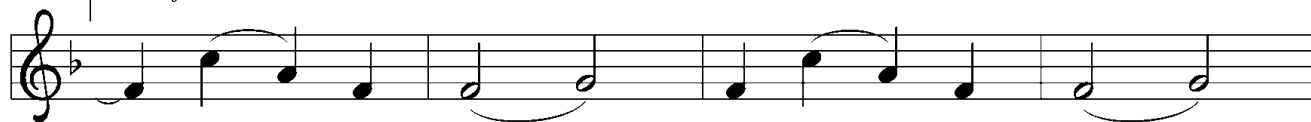


soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Live by the Spirit!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Life Eternal

Gerald Peterson

✙ ✙ ✙ ✙

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1-6	Psalms 46
Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43

COFFEE HOUR – Please join us for fellowship in Winemiller Hall after today's worship service.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

New this week: Candice Kochounian

Continue to pray for: Brian Albright, Tom Anderson, Killian Ash, Anne B, Carlos B, Eric Vincent Baez, Tracy Baker, Frani Barnes, Maria Baynon, Baynon family, Herb Baynon, Waltraut Bellmann, Betty Lou Bernhardt, Windy Binns, Robert Bonesteel, Ruth Brellenthin, Paul Todd Brown, Agnes Burkart, Canea family, Diane Cello, Stacy Christian, C.J. & Colleen, Karen Chipko, Beryl

Clements, Patti Cotter, Denise Crawford, Charles Deon, Dominik Desormeaux, Judy Dietz, JoAnn Faulkner, Gavin, Jenna, & Ben Felder, Flower family, Vicki Goers, Patrick Gould, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, D. Hambaugh, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Glenn Heinecke, Kay Hill, Sandra Hill, Barbara Hofving, Linda Hrab, Jay Jensen, Brian Johnson, Monica Jusino, Willy K, Karen family, Finn Katona and family, Judy Kortier, Stephanie Krepshaw, Bonnie Kuester, Maggie Kull, Debra Leinenger, Donna Lucier, Kim Macloud, Bob Maday, Germaine Major, Mallory, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, Raina McDannold, Bradford Allen McWilliams, Jackie Meyer, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Eva Mydland, Lydia Noto, Kelly Oliver, Brian Oliver, Oliver family, Michele Oliver, Zuma Perez, Lou Prettyman, Barbara Prochilo, Mary Reber, Rinehart family, Katherine Rizzo, Colleen Rocco, Rocco family, Dennis Rogers, Nancy Salzbach, John Sannuto, Carole Schaefer, Shaun, Sirmenis family, Kathy Swank, Jackie & Alan Sweet, Alice Totten, Antonio Vaznelis, Vernon, Lauren West, West family, Ginger Wielk, Howard Williams, Luke Williams, Christopher Younger, Eileen and Carol and Jason

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Isaac Furr-Army, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Brandon Holt-Chief Warrant Officer 3, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Perry Langbein, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, US Navy CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class,

LCpl. Erich Timm, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.

PRAYERS: *The list will be cleared every four weeks. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than four weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. In case of emergency, contact the office at 352-597-1456 and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*



Altar flowers given by:

Leonore & Gary Kopitzke

In honor of their wedding anniversary

Altar Flowers: *If you would like to order flowers in honor or in memory of someone, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can call the office at 352-597-1456. Donation is \$25.00. Flowers can be picked up after the 9:30AM Sunday service, or you can schedule a pick-up time with the office if you are not attending the service.*

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Rev. Giuseppe Mattei
Assisting Minister	Robert Rios
Scripture Reader	Leonore Kopitzke
Ushers	Gwen Mahon & Lou Prettyman
Acolyte/Crucifer	Wayne Morris
Greeter(s)	Evelyn Galli & Ed Lewis
Music Director	Donna Olsen
Organist	Kathy Hackemer
Altar Guild	Connie Chase & Robert Rios
Sanctuary	Connie Chase & Beryl Clements
AV Director	Art Alt
Audio	Pat Squires
Cameras	Mark Major
Graphics	Diane Alt, Francesca Bugini, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
Video Production	Vicki Page
Head counter this week	June Kristoferson
Data Entry	Barbara Crisanti

**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE
A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF THE
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com, Website: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Deacon Charlotte Downing
Music Director: Donna Olsen
Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt
Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

