

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

## *Roll Down Justice*

10:00 AM Worship Service • January 28, 2024



*Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Sunday is an annual worship celebration created to share in the commitment our organization and partnering faith communities have in the ongoing work of welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for LGBTQIA+ people in the life of the church. While historically this day is celebrated on the final Sunday in January, many RIC partners will celebrate on their date of affirmation, or on other days meaningful to their communities rooted in this commitment to radical hospitality. We hope you enjoy Roll Down Justice as we join collectively with our 1,050+ partners across the United States and Canada through this celebratory service.*

**Welcome members and guests** to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex. Please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information.

**The nursery is available**, however since there are no attendants at this time, feel free to use it as needed.

**Trinity offers an induction loop** for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T." If you are unsure if your hearing aid is compatible, please contact your audiologist.

**Enlarged print sermon copies** are available for the benefit of sight or hearing impaired worshippers. Enlarged print sermon copies are available for the benefit of sight or hearing impaired worshippers. They can be found in the narthex on the table.

## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607  
(757) 245-7861 – <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com>  
Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



**REV. TINA MELUSKY** – Pastor ([tina.melusky@gmail.com](mailto:tina.melusky@gmail.com))

**GEOFFREY BELL** – Director of Music Ministries ([music@trinitynn.org](mailto:music@trinitynn.org))

**SHARON MATHISON** – Administrative Assistant ([admin@trinitynn.org](mailto:admin@trinitynn.org))

**CAROL BESSOM** – Treasurer ([cbessom@trinitynn.com](mailto:cbessom@trinitynn.com))

**THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN** – Ministers of the Word

**FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS:** <http://facebook.com/TrinityNN>

**TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE:** <http://trinitynn.org>

### PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm;

Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm

Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in.

**Pastor's Cell:** (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center,  
LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

**Bulletin cover image by Carol Bessom, member**

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## CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

*Berceuse from Variations on "Thaxted"*

Tom Trenney

## GATHERING

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism; we are held so close by God's endless compassion and transformation, which flow like an unfailing stream. God's generous gift of water is for all God's beloveds. While remembering that water is restorative, that precious resource as it is, water is used for healing, washing, playing, nurturing, cleansing, and in many traditions and communities water is used in spiritual practices, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give thanks for the breath that hovered over resounding waters and spoke life into being.

We give thanks for the great flood that proclaimed God's promise through rainbow-colored brilliance.

We give thanks for the sea that split open our thirst for power, control, and dominance. We give thanks for the One who transformed water into wine and then yearned to share it with those that society had disenfranchised.

We give thanks for the gift of baptism, and this not-particularly-special water that came from a faucet that proclaims that you, me, WE ALL are beloved children of God, and nothing can separate us from that love of God made known through Jesus.

Cleanse our fears. Drown our divisions. Let us die to a life that pulls us from your relentless love and let us rise to a life that says yes, and...

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. And all God's people say,

**Amen!**

*The assembly faces the processing cross.*

## GATHERING HYMN

*All Are Welcome*  
TWO OAKS

ELW 641

### GREETING

The grace of the One who redeemed and redeems us from binaries, the love, mercy, and justice of the One who created all beyond our wildest dreams and called it all GOOD, and the wisdom of the One who challenges us to go and do likewise be with you all. **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

ELW 650

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines of lyrics. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.  
Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

*The assembly is seated.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and Living God, we open to you this day. May peace flow and let justice roll down like an ever-flowing stream. Open our eyes and help us to see that no one is outside your love; outside our love. Remind us that we are not alone thanks to your abiding presence and the ministry of Reconciling Works and the Reconciling in Christ program, through Jesus Christ, the free gift of grace. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: Amos 5:21-24 (Inclusive Bible Translation)**

I despise and reject your feasts!  
I am not appeased by your solemn assemblies!  
When you offer me burnt offerings,  
I reject your oblations,  
and refuse to look at your sacrifices of fattened cattle!  
Spare me the racket of your chanting!  
Relieve me of the strumming of your harps!  
Instead, let justice flow like a river,  
and righteousness flow like an unfailing stream.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:31-39 (Inclusive Bible Translation)**

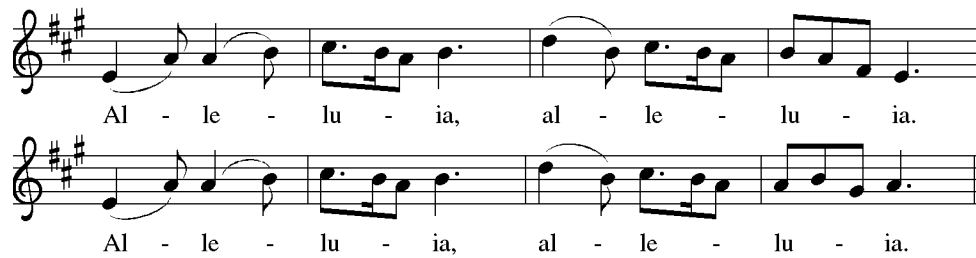
What should be our response? Simply this: “If God is for us, who can be against us?” Since God did not spare the Only Begotten but gave Christ up for the sake of us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that God will freely give us everything. Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? Since God is the One who justifies, who has the power to condemn? Only Christ Jesus, who died – or rather, was raised – and sits at the right hand of God, and who now intercedes for us! What will separate us from the love of Christ? Trouble? Calamity? Persecution? Hunger? Nakedness? Danger? Violence?

As scripture says, “For your sake, we’re being killed all day long; we’re looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered.” Yet in all this, we are more than conquerors because of God who has loved us.

For I am certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither heights nor depths – nor anything else in all creation – will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*



### GOSPEL: Luke 10.25-37 (Inclusive Bible Translation)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" The lawyer answered, "You shall love the Sovereign your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then the Samaritan put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out some money, gave it to the innkeeper, and said, 'take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" The lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

*The assembly is seated.*

CHILDREN'S CHAT  
SERMON

Pastor Tina Melusky  
Pastor Tina Melusky

*The assembly stands.*

## THAXTED

## APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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

God of inclusion, **hear our prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

## RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*The assembly is seated.*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Choose Love

Mark A. Miller

*In the midst of pain, I choose love.*

*In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,  
I await the sun again, I choose love.*

*In the midst of war, I choose peace.*

*In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,  
I will seek the good once more, I choose peace.*

*When my world falls down, I will rise.*

*When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,  
I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.*

*In the midst of pain, I choose love.  
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,  
I await the sun again, I choose love.*

*The assembly stands.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Build a Longer Table*  
NOËL NOUVELET

ACS 1062

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

For the gift of unconditional love,  
**we give thanks.**

For the way in which these offerings will become gifts of love embodied,  
**we give thanks.**

For the gift of this community bound and working together,  
**we give thanks.**

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

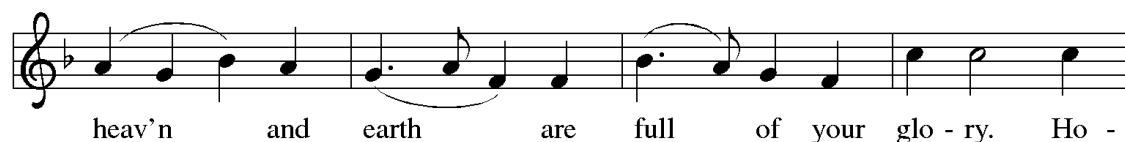
**We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the One who cherishes and nourishes us. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

It is good to cry out...and so we sing with all the company of heaven.

## SANCTUS





san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics 'san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.' The second staff contains 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -' and the third staff contains 'san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and dotted notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, just, and merciful God.

New birth for creation broke forth upon us in Jesus.

Your Spirit anointed him

to preach good news to the poor,

to proclaim release to the captives

and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

and to announce that the time had come

when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

In these acts of love and justice, we see

the birth of our call as church

to let the waters of justice roll,

knowing we have been delivered from death

through a covenant of water and the Spirit.

In this moment, we remember all who suffer in our day

and imagine how Jesus would respond to them.

In this silence, I invite you to call to mind and heart,

remembering to God the people and places,

known and unknown, that need our prayers, that so desperately need a place at our table of love.

*Silence for reflection*

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.

We proclaim this truth:

Death is part of life.

**Christ has died.**

But death will not have the last word.

**Christ has risen!**

And suffering will end.

**Christ will come again...**

...and again and again, every time suffering is alleviated, comfort is given, food is offered, hope is restored.

I invite you to connect with the people around you, a hand on a shoulder, holding hands, whatever is comfortable for you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this body gathered here and on our union with each other and with these gifts of bread and cup. May we become your body for the sake of a world where justice rolls down like an ever-flowing stream.

**All praise to God, Creator of Love!**

**All praise to Jesus, Love Incarnate!**

**All praise to Spirit, Love In Action!**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

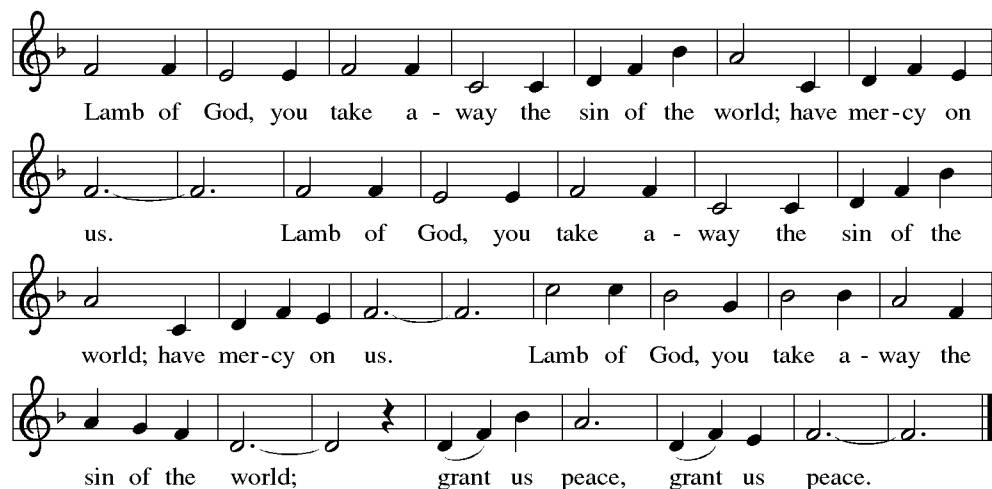
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

*The Assembly is seated.*

## AGNUS DEI



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.

## COMMUNION

*Communion is held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a communion cup with wine from the outside edge of the tray or a grape juice cup from the center of the tray. Recycle baskets are located outside of the sanctuary doors for your plastic cups.*

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**      *For Everyone Born*      Murray/Mann  
(choir will sing stanzas 1-4; all join in singing stanza 5)  
(See lyrics on next page)

*For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free.  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
justice and joy!*

*The assembly stands.*

## SENDING

### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May you deeply trust the nourishment provided to us by our Savior Jesus Christ, and may it urge you forward, with renewed strength and life, to be God's love in, to, and for the world. **Amen.**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God, we give thanks, for the opportunity to serve and be served by those you place in our paths, for our beloved siblings of all genders, sexual orientations, gifts, talents, abilities, marginalizations, and privilege.

Take our thanks and make it action. Take your rolling, love-soaked justice and drench us with the desire and capacity to bring it more fully into every single thing we do. Take our thanks and make it action.

Because you give us the courage, you give us the freedom, you call us to walk in the ways of your Son, the Christ, the redeemer, in this world with your Spirit by our side. We honor this call and give thanks. **Amen.**

### BLESSING

May the outrageous welcome of our Creator ☩ accept and love us for who we are; may the incarnation of the Word touch and hold us close; may the dancing flicker of the rainbow Spirit help us risk ourselves for love; and the blessing of God be with us now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Sing a New World into Being*

NETTLETON

1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.  
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race  
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.  
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry

Find a tune for si - lent year - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:  
 brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;  
 where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;  
 for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.  
 where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.  
 where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.  
 when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!  
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!  
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.  
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

*Text by Mary Louise Bringle, © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.*

The assembly turns to face the recessing cross.

**DISMISSAL**

Go now in wholeness to love and work for the justice of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

*Improvisation on "We Shall Overcome"*

Carl Haywood

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

**RED FOOD BOX:** Please bring in items for our Little Red Food Box! Items needed are posted near the table in the narthex. Thank you for helping brighten the lives of our siblings in Christ!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please remember to pick up your 2024 offering boxes in the church library, and save the church the cost of mailing them! If you visit any of our shut-ins, please also feel free to pick up these boxes as well and deliver them in person. And a reminder -- while we all appreciate the convenience and consistency of Vanco or other online giving, please pick up your offering boxes as well. They contain envelopes for our Lenten and Advent additional special giving, as well as other envelopes that may be used to donate to World Hunger, the school, the church scholarship fund, etc. These extra gifts help us stay on track with our budget and increase our outreach to our siblings in Christ! Thank you!

## PRAYER LIST

**ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS:** Nursing Homes/ Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell, Millie Christensen, Lucille Lebold, and Barbara Olson (The Chesapeake, Assisted Living Room 317); Richard Anderson, Hampton Health and Rehab, Room 226, Shirley Anderson Riverside Rehab, Yorktown, Room 1113. Shut- in at Home: Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards. Doris Moeser, The Gardens at Warwick Forest, Rm. 204.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** **Jean Wimmer**--friend of Jeannette Dail, **Heike Ahlen, and the Ahlen family**, requested by Kathy Stevens; **Matt Adamo** (Brother-in-law of Patricia) requested by Patricia Fielding; **Matt Eggars** (Sandy's nephew), requested by the Sniady family; Family and Friends of **Loyd Rawls**; **Mary Lou Hubble** (Jacob's aunt), requested by the Wessler family; **Jessica Savage**, requested by the Dail Family; **Harry Hartman and Bill Wren**, requested by Anne Obara; and **Sherrie Strickland** (cousin), requested by Wendy Mynoymany. **Beth Eisdorfer**, daughter of Terri Hoffeditz.

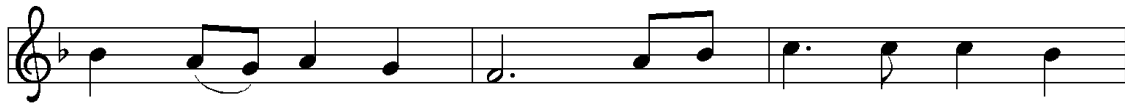
**Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty:** James Fielding, State Dept., Myanmar; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Sierra Leone.; Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB; Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand; Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and wife, Elisabeth Bruce.



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1989 William Whitla.

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1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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