Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Seventh Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 AM Worship Service • February 23, 2025 ELW Setting 4



Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

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.

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607
(757) 245-7861 – http://trinitylutheran-nn.com
Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.Image: Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.THE REV. TINA MELUSKY – Pastor (*tina.melusky@gmail.com*)GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (*music@trinitynn.org*)SHARON MATHISON – Administrative Assistant (*admin@trinitynn.org*)

CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (*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.

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ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship (cranberry hymnal) ACS – All Creation Sings (purple supplement)

CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

Come, Christians, Join to Sing Trinity Ringers arr. F. Thomas Simpson

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.** *Spirit, Open My Heart* WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

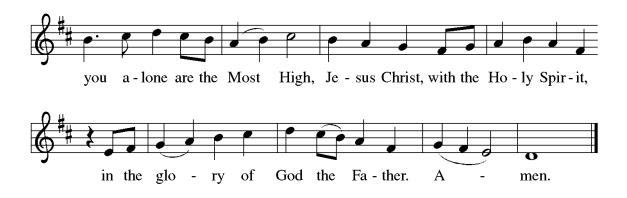
GREETING

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**.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Continued on next page



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

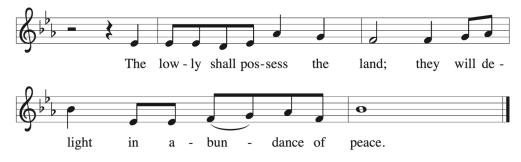
Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here but God; God has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty." And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40 (read responsively; sung response before and when denoted by "R")



Psalm 37:11

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year* $C \ @ 2006$ Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

For they shall soon wither like the grass,

and like the green grass fade away.

Put your trust in the LORD and do good;

dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

Take delight in the LORD,

who shall give you your heart's desire. R

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,

and see what God will do.

The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;

do not be provoked; it leads only to evil. R

For evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

In a little while the wicked shall be no more;

even if you search out their place, they will not be there.

But the lowly shall possess the land;

they will delight in abundance of peace.

But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.

You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;

you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge. R

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

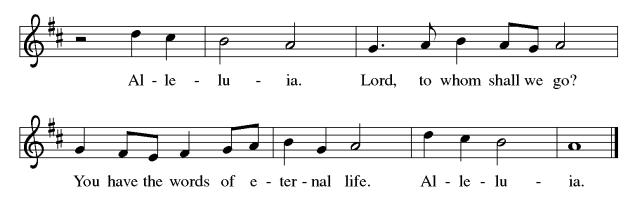
But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

The assembly stands.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for the most himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

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

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S CHAT		Pastor Tina Melusky
Sermon		Pastor Tina Melusky
	The assembly stands.	
HYMN OF THE DAY	<i>In All Our Grief</i> FREDERICKTOWN	ELW 615
Welcome New Members		ELW 234-236

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

The assembly is seated.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM	Prayer of St. Francis	Allen Pote
	Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.	
	Where there is hatred, let me sow love.	
	Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord.	
	Where there is doubt, let there be faith.	
С	h, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.	
	Where there's despair, let me bring hope.	
	Where there is darkness, let there be light.	
	Where there is sadness, let there be joy.	
0 D	ivine Master, grant that I may not so much seek	
	to be consoled as to console,	
	to be understood as to understand,	
	to be loved as to love.	
С	h, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace,	
	Where there is hatred, let me sow love.	
	For it is in giving that we receive,	
	and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.	
An	nd it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.	
Lor	d, make me an instrument of thy peace. Amen.	

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

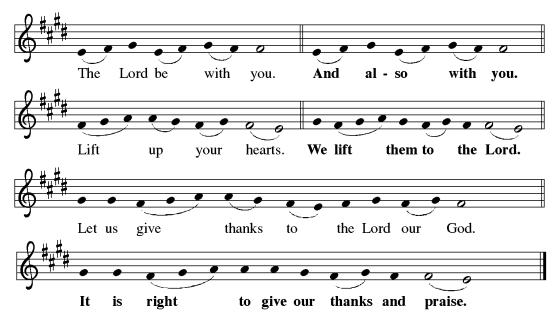
ELW 181

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

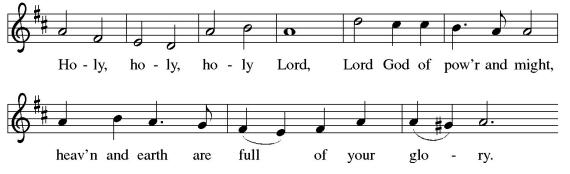


PROPER PREFACE

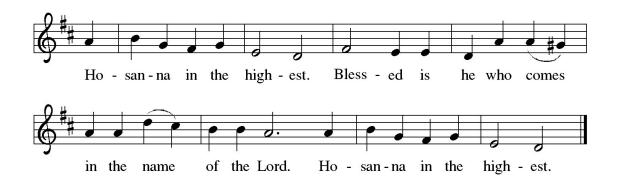
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Continued on next page



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. **We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

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. Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

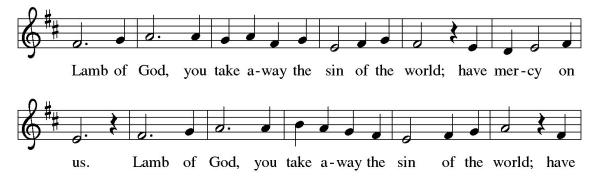
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

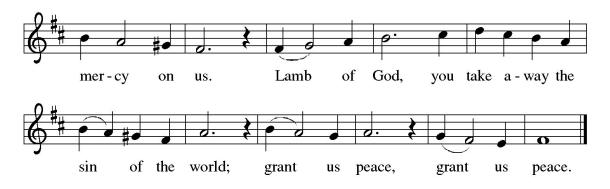
LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; 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





COMMUNION

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

Trinity has an open table – all are welcome to come to the feast.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

I Come with Joy DOVE OF PEACE ELW 482

The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN	Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us	ELW 707
	HYFRYDOL	
DISMISSAL		
Go in peace. Live in	hope. Thanks be to God.	

POSTLUDEPostlude on HyfrydolJason D. Payne

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY CRUCIFER – Abbi Wessler ACOLYTES – Ellie Wessler & Carter Recupero LECTOR – Dave Roselius USHERS/GREETERS – John Lunsford & Dave Roselius CAMERA/LIVESTREAM – Kelly Rummel

Flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth Krause Adams by Spindler Krause Jr.

Please give a warm Trinity welcome to the following new members: The Barrows Family, The LaForge Family, The Perez Family, and Amy & Emily Vocu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNCIL

Council will continue to accept revisions to the TELC bylaws based on feedback from the December Congregational Meeting. We will hold collaboration sessions March 2 and 30 after service in the church library. Final vote for the bylaws as well as ratification of the TELC constitution will occur at the annual congregational meeting in June.

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so much for all the cards and well wishes during Harlan/Dad's stay in the hospital, home in hospice and after his passing. It's been a very difficult few months but we are very thankful for our church family! We are so grateful to Kelly Rummel, Judy Hunt, Jeanette Dail, Laura Jay, Teresa Flores, Karoline Ardis and Linda Madler for the delicious meals you provided to help keep us going when we needed it most. Our sincerest gratitude, Virginia Hamby, Katherine Harry and Laura Veronie.

BANNED BOOK CLUB

We will meet on Sunday 2/23 at 6:30 PM, Zoom. Our book this month is *Maus*. Please join us!

PORT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Newport News homeless shelter night (PORT) that Trinity supports is on Monday, February 24th. The host church for that night is Denbigh United Presbyterian Church in Newport News. We have some volunteer work positions still available as well as some food donations needed. We need volunteers to help prepare and serve the dinner, support guest check-in, and support guest check-out on Tuesday morning (February 25th). Copies of the casserole recipe are in the narthex or you can request one by email (<u>cliffordobara@cox.net</u>). Food donations can be dropped off in the Church library (see plastic bin near coat closet). To sign up for food donations or volunteer to work, please use the Sign Up Genius link below or contact Cliff or Anne Obara: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DADA72AA3FBC34-54738349port</u>

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

As we look ahead to the Lenten season, we will be starting our First Communion curriculum on the first Sunday of Lent, March 9, during the Sunday School hour. Our curriculum is geared towards children ages 6 and up, and is designed for all children and families who would like to learn more about the gift of communion. Even if your child already receives communion, they are welcome to join to learn more about this precious part of worship. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Tina or Karoline Ardis.

OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES

Our 2025 offering envelope boxes are available for pickup in the church library. If you have a family member or friend who is unable to pick up their boxes, please feel free to take them as well and save us the cost of mailing.

PLEASE pick up your offering boxes even if you are using Vanco or another type of online donation. There are special envelopes in the boxes that give us additional opportunities to support our church, our community, and our world. Thank you!

RED FOOD BOX

Thank you so much to all who are so faithfully donating items for the Red Food Box! This ministry of outreach to our siblings could not happen without your willingness and generosity. We who have so much can only imagine what these gifts mean to someone who has so little.

Thank you again!

REMINDER

Just a reminder that, if you have children with you in the service, there are binders in the narthex with drawing paper and crayons, coloring pages, games, and various puzzles for them to use during the service if needed!

NEW PIANO UPDATE!

As some of you know, in October we applied for a grant to help fund a new piano for the sanctuary, as our current one is well beyond its years. GREAT NEWS!!! We received notification that we have been awarded \$25,000 towards a new piano, which is an incredible gift and a great jump start to this project. Part of the process of receiving this grant is to let them know of our intentions and plans to help fund the rest of the cost. Currently, we have already received roughly \$17,000 in pledges for this project, another great start!! We're looking at about \$16,000 more to cover the total cost. If you are willing to prayerfully consider donating to this project and helping us to provide such a memorable piece to our worship space, it would be greatly appreciated. If you choose to donate, please mark that offering as "Piano Fund," while also faithfully remembering this is a project on top of the needs of our general fund which is always in need of support and faithful stewardship.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell, Millie Christensen, and Barbara Olson; Shut- ins at Home: Peggy Cash, and Shirley Anderson.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Susan & Scott Nelson, requested by Laura Davis; Family of Don Hipple, requested by Todd Recupero; Wayne Skinner & Pam Carmean, Carroll Emerson, and Judy Wagner St. Pierre, requested by the Dail Family; Ron Vodenichar, Sandy's brother, and Eddie Bateman, our nephew, requested by the Sniady Family; Astrid Quist, requested by Pastor Tina; Florence & Richard, cousins of Dottie Self, requested by Dottie Self; Connie Hoover, requested by Pastor Tina; Family and Friends of Rudy Coffee, requested by Carter Recupero; Virginia Hamby, requested by Pastor Tina and Katherine Harry; Mary Best, a friend of Connie Hoover, requested by Connie Hoover; Sherry Johnston, former member and sister of Donna Owens, requested by Judy Hunt; The family of Carole Knopp, by Wendy Mynoymany; Scully, Pastor Tina's dog, requested by Tricia Wessler; Amanda Griegos and her family, requested by Patricia Fielding; the Ahlen family, requested by Kathy Stevens; Beth Eisdorfer, daughter of Terri Hoffeditz.

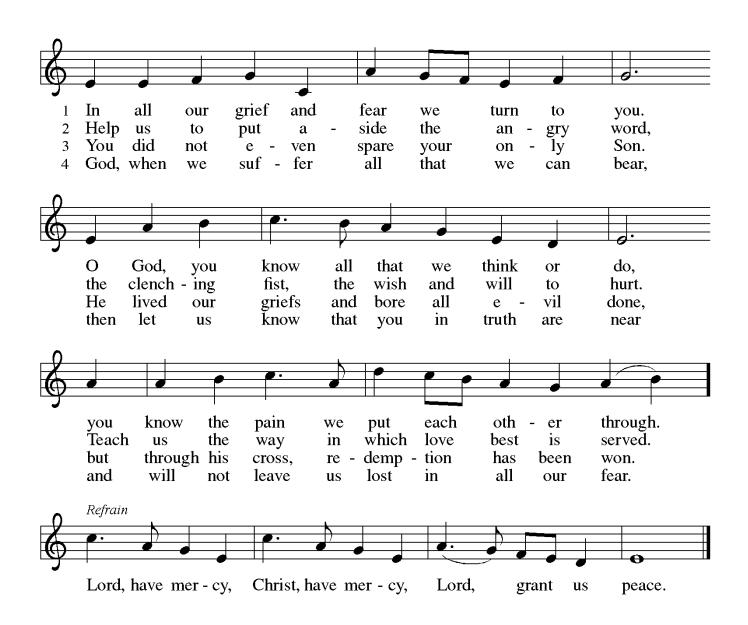
THOSE WHO SERVE, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DUTY: James Fielding, in Tokyo, Japan, Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Sierra Leone; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National guard, LAFB; Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and wife, Elisabeth Bruce.



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953 Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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HYMN OF THE DAY

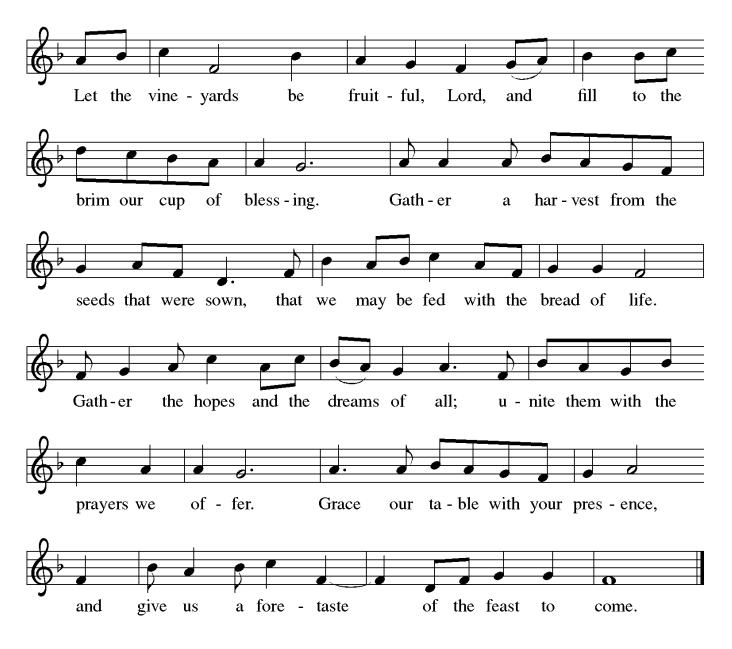


Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: FREDERICKTOWN, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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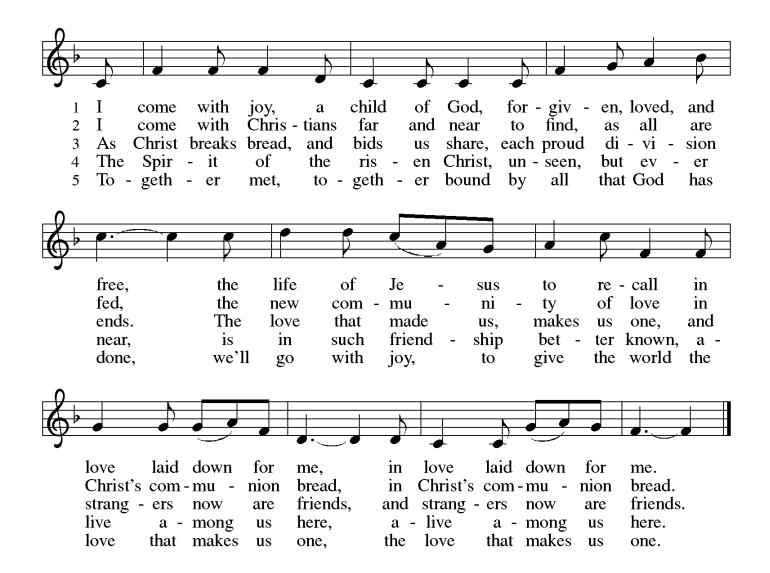
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OFFERTORY HYMN



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Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

ELW 707



Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887