# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church *Second Sunday in Lent* 10:00 AM Worship Service • March 16, 2025



Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord." 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**

WING IN THE GOOD NEWS

GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

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) 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.

Bulletin cover image by https://stcharleslivermore.org/2021-lenten-mission

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#### CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Prelude

Prelude on "Thy Holy Wings"

John Ferguson

### 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, + one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

#### Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,

but our lives do not always reflect you

and your love for the world.

We do not show others the tender compassion

you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality

you grant to all people.

We oppress others,

even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives

and guide us again in the way of the cross.

#### Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide

to welcome the wandering ones home.

In + Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN	The God of Abraham Praise	ELW 831
	YIGDAL; stanzas 1, 4, 6, 8	

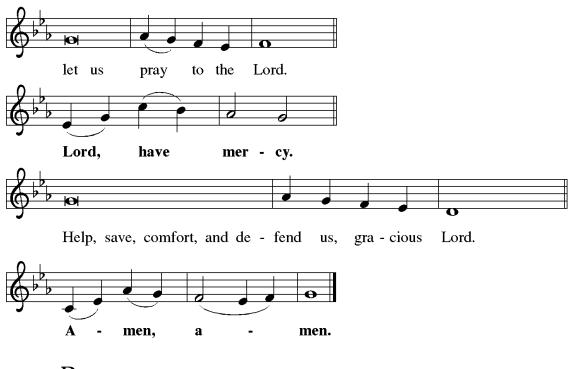
#### GREETING

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



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated.

#### FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no off-spring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." The Lord brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then the Lord said to Abram, "So shall your descendants be." And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then the Lord God said to Abram, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But Abram said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" The Lord said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought all of these to the Lord and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."

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

**PSALM 27** (read responsively; sing response when denoted by "R")



Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.
This I believe – that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!
Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord! R

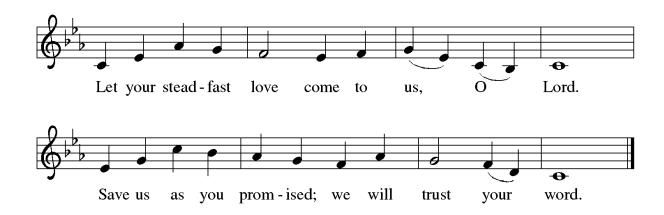
### SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

The assembly stands.



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 

#### GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.* 

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusa-lem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

FAITH REFLECTION

Pastor Tina Melusky Kathleen Pietrasanta

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Thy Holy Wings* BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR ELW 613

**APOSTLE'S CREED** 

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God, in your mercy, Receive our prayer.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

#### **RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

#### I Shall See

#### Michael John Trotta

Teach me your way; lead me in a straight path. One thing I seek, to dwell in your house. Your face I seek, hide not from me. You are my light, whom should I fear?

> *In times of trouble he shall hide me. I will not fear. He is my strength.*

I believe I shall see all of your good in the land of the living.

Wait upon him, and he will strengthen you. Wait for him, he is your strength. I will not fear. He is my strength.

OFFERTORY HYMN

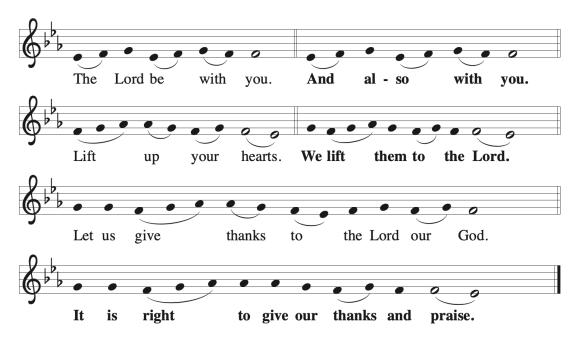
*Change My Heart, O God* CHANGE MY HEART ELW 801

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### MEAL



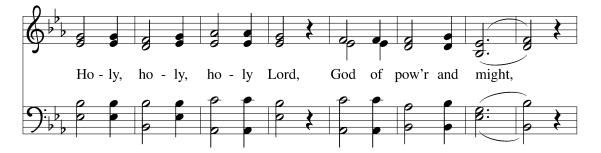


#### **PROPER PREFACE**

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



Music: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937 Adapt. © 1985, 1999 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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#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. 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.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

### Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

### Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.** With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all of its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

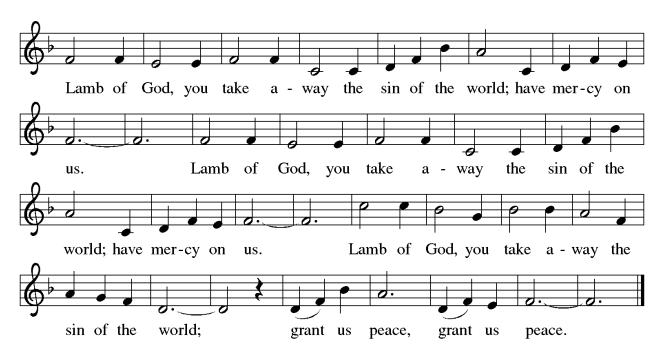
### Amen.

### 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



Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### 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**

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me GREEN TYLER ACS 1084

The assembly stands.

#### SENDING

#### TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessing

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less THE SOLID ROCK ELW 596

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. Michael Burkhardt



### SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

Crucifer

Acolytes

Lector

**Ushers/Greeters** 

Camera/Livestream

Patrick Spisak

Ellie Wessler

Abbi Wessler

Misty Prussia

Dave Roselius

Karoline Ardis

Garrett Mynoymany

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### TLC WELCOME STATEMENT SURVEY/CONDUCTED BY THE RIC CORE TEAM

Our congregation voted in December 2024 to approve an amended version of our Statement of Welcome as part of our most recent constitutional review and update. It is set to be voted on for formal ratification, along with other approved constitutional amendments, at the next congregational meeting in June 2025. This Statement of Welcome includes specific language demonstrating our congregation's commitment to the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of all people. The RIC Core Team would like to know your thoughts and feelings about this mission of welcome and inclusion in our church. Your responses will help us to better understand everyone's perspectives and help to honor them as we continue our Welcoming Journey together.

For more details about Trinity's mission, visit the **What We Believe** page of our website (<u>https://trinitylutheran-nn.com/what-we-believe</u>)

### FFF UPDATE

Due to a scheduling conflict after service on April 13th (first communion reception) RIC will move their April discussion to **April 6th following Worship**.

### NEW PIANO UPDATE!

A huge THANK YOU to all who have already donated to support the fundraising campaign for our new sanctuary piano! As of March 11th, we have received \$21,220 in donations from the congregation. Combined with our \$25,000 grant from the Hampton Roads Community Foundation, this means we have raised \$46,220 of our \$59,000 goal. We're getting close! Our goal is to have the funds for the piano on-hand by April 6, with the hope of having the new piano delivered and in place for worship during the Easter season. If you haven't already, please prayerfully consider donating to this project that will richly enhance our music and worship life at Trinity. When donating, please mark that offering as "Piano Fund," while also remembering this is a project that exists alongside the needs of our general fund, which is always in need of support and faithful stewardship. Please let us know if you would like to make your donation in honor or in memory of someone. Thank you once again for your faithfulness and generosity!

### 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!

### LENTEN WEDNESDAYS UPDATE

Part of a journey is reflection, and sometimes that reflection leads to pivoting along the way. We are doing that this year with our Lenten Wednesday services. Beginning this Wednesday, Lenten services will be **IN PERSON** in the sanctuary where we will be worshipping through our senses. This will be a five week series that allows us to explore the themes of Lent through the things we can see, touch, smell, taste, and feel. This is meant to be a family friendly, interactive service. COME AS YOU ARE! If you need to bring a lunch box with you, bring it. If you need to come in sweatpants, wear them. There will be weeks that I will be in my GOTR gear! Lent is meant to be a time of communal journeying and I pray that we will embrace the opportunity to do this together. Faith is not meant to be done alone, but together. Please join us at 6:30 March 19 & 26, April 2, 9. & 16.

### HELP US SPRING CLEAN FOR HOLY WEEK!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 12 @ 9:00 for brass polishing and cleaning day as we prepare for Holy Week. We will have a team of folks who will be in the library to polish the bells and the other brass worship implements, and another group of folks who will do work around the building to do some spring cleaning to get us bright and shiny for the Easter season.

### FLOWERS DURING LENT

In observance of Lent, there will be no flowers in the chancel from March 9 - April 13. Those who wish to remember or honor loved ones during Lent can make a momentary donation to Church. Please specify your donation is for ELCA Good Gifts. There is a sign-up sheet on the wall to the side door entrance. Your loved ones will be mentioned in our Sunday bulletin.

#### COUNCIL

Council will continue to accept revisions to the TELC bylaws based on feedback from the December Congregational Meeting. We will hold the last session on March 30th 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.

#### A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Since our Wednesday Lenten services are taking place on Zoom this year, please feel free to place your Lenten offerings in the offering plate on Sundays or add them to your Vanco offering. Since each Zoom meeting costs the church about \$16, you can help us cover that cost in either of these ways. Thanks!

#### **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!

### PRAYER LIST

CELEBRATIONS: Dr. Bill Whitehurst, on his 100th birthday, requested by Dottie Self.

**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: Anne Obara, requested by Cliff Obara; Mary Lucia Spake, Bill Solomon; Sarah Miller, requested by John & Sandy Lunsford; Bill Solomon, requested by the server crew; **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 Diane and Dave Roselius; Karen Admano and her husband Matt 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.

## **2025 EASTER LILY ORDERS**



The cost is **<u>\$15.00</u>** per lily.

Please fill out this form <u>completely</u> (with your check/cash).
This form may be placed in the offering plate
or email to: Sharon Mathison, <u>admin@trinitynn.org.</u>
All email will receive an email confirmation.
Orders will be taken until Sunday April 6, 2025.

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_\_

(As you would like it printed in the bulletin.)

To the glory of God and in	n <u>MEMORY</u> of:
----------------------------	---------------------

1)			
2)			
To the glory of God and in <u>HONOR</u> of:			
1)			
2)			
Total number of lilies ordered.			
Method of payment:			
\$ Total amount due (@ \$15.00 each) Cash Check #			
My envelope number is:			
(Please put your envelope number even if you are paying in cash.)			
I am taking home my lily or giving it to Simple Sunflower.			

Thank you for your order!

#### The God of Abraham Praise

ELW 831

stanzas 1, 4, 6, 8



Continued on next page

#### GATHERING HYMN

- 5 Though nature's strength decay, and earth and hell withstand, to Canaan's bounds I urge my way at your command. The wat'ry deep I pass, with Jesus in my view, and through the howling wilderness my way pursue.
- 6 The goodly land I see, with peace and plenty blest; a land of sacred liberty, and endless rest.
  There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound, and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.
- 7 Before the great Three-One the saints exulting stand and tell the wonders God has done through all their land. The list'ning spheres attend and swell the growing fame and sing the songs which never end, the wondrous name.
- 8 The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high.
  "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" they ever cry. Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'nly lays: to you be glory, might divine, and endless praise!

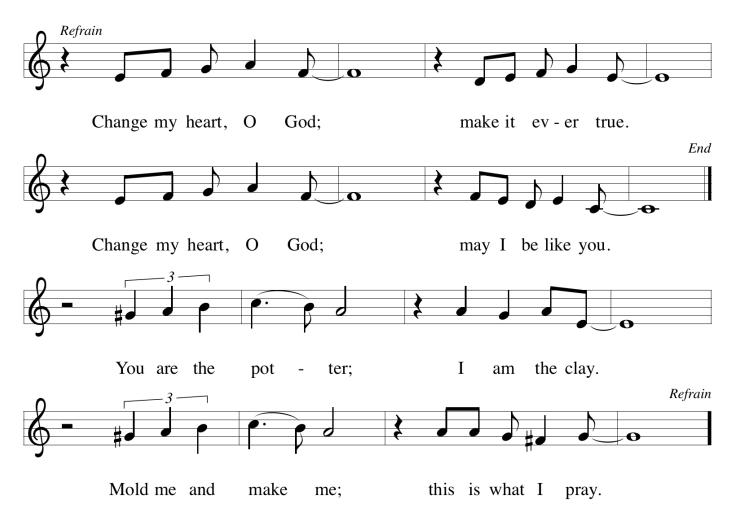
Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799, alt., based on the *Hgdal*, c. 14th cent. Music: YIGDAL, Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797 Thy Holy Wings

ELW 613



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent. www.selahpub.com. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

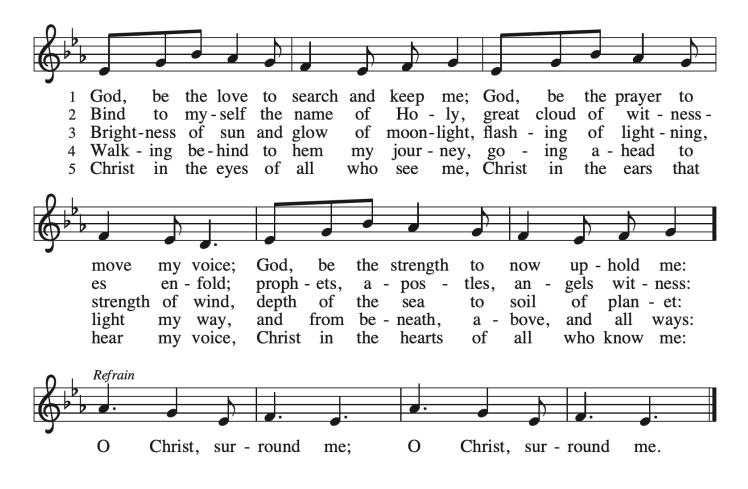
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Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyeard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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ACS 1084



Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967 Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868