



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2015

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 • www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

Communion Service 9:30 a.m..... Page 3
Announcements and Prayer Concerns Page 16

Staff

Presiding Minister

Pastor Bill Ruth

Organist & Choir Director

Barbara Vukich

Day Care Director

Laura Marquez

Bookkeeper

Robin Swearingen

Secretary

Paula Braxton

Council Officers

President

Suzanne Wilke

Vice President

David Holtz

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Debbie Van Diepen

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by filling out a worship attendance form (located in your bulletin) and placing it in the offering plate.

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family:

Council member – Mary Murray

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Lois Owen

Worship:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Outreach:

Council members – David Holtz and Karl Williams

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Council members – Tom Hardin and Brian Skustad

Fellowship:

Council member – Rue Knoll

Social Media:

Council member – Mike Epting

Volunteer Coordinator:

Council member – Debbie Van Diepen

Endowment Team

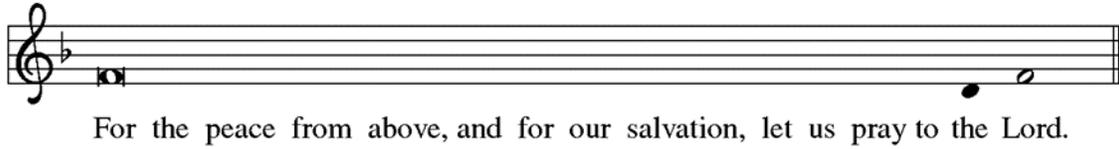
Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pat Norquist, Rob Shank, Bill Reinheimer

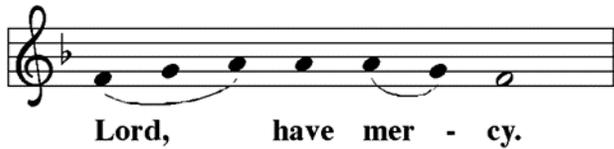
KYRIE



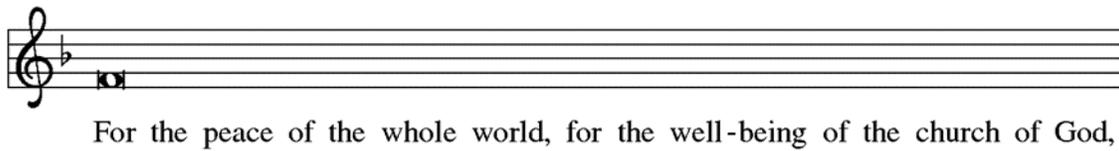
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



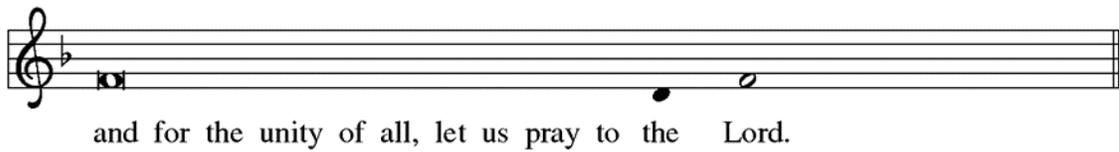
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



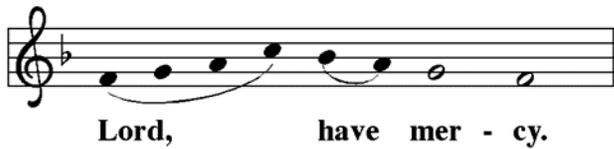
Lord, have mer - cy.



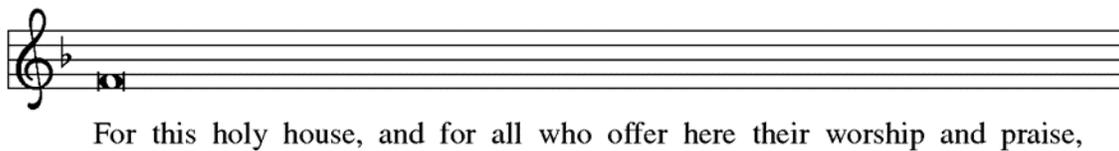
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



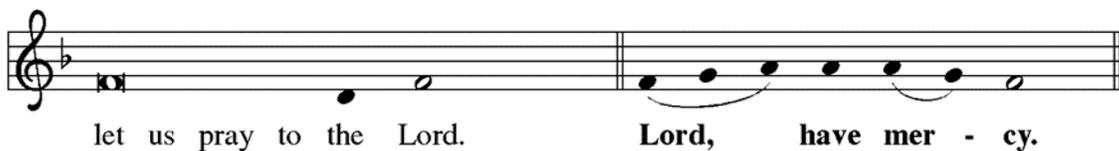
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



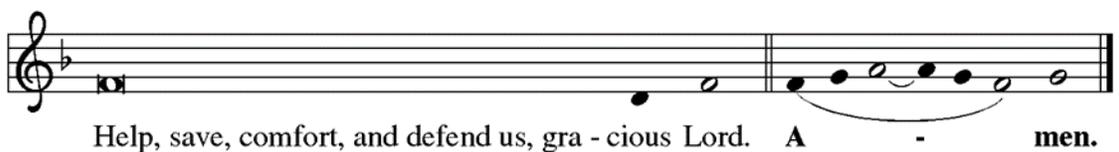
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

P Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4–9

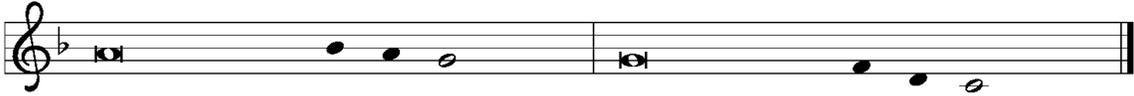
Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1–3, 17–22

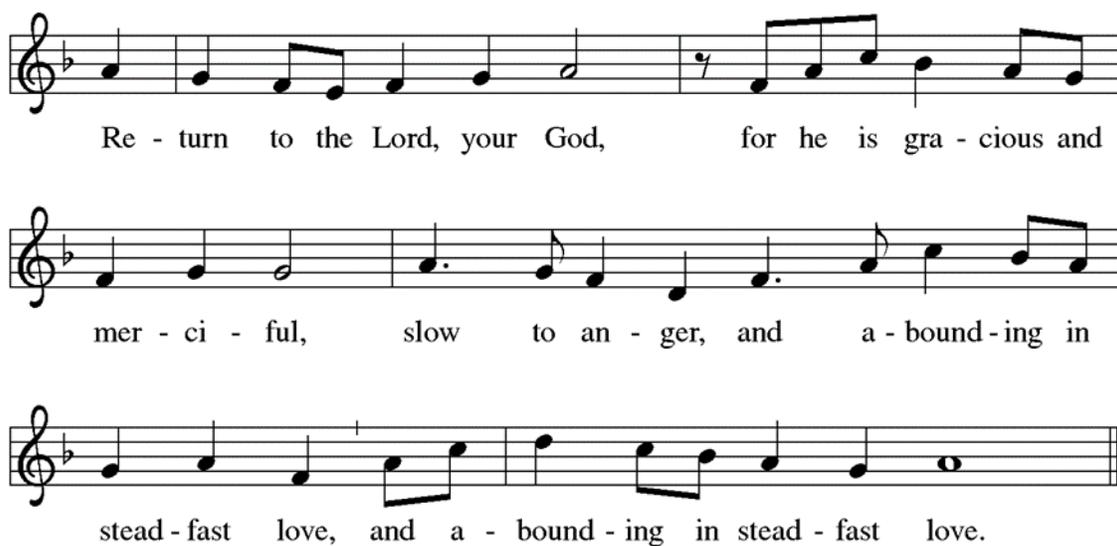


him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God —⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast.¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 3:14–21

The holy gospel according to John, Chapter 3.

Glory to you, O Lord.

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the

light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

Pastor Bill Ruth

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Loved the World

Red Book #323

APOSTLES’ CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles’ 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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Led by Christ in our journey of repentance and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation. You are invited to kneel.

Response: Hear us, O God... **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Larry Harris

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

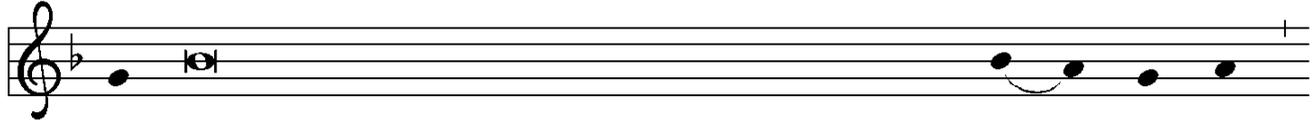
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'.

PREFACE



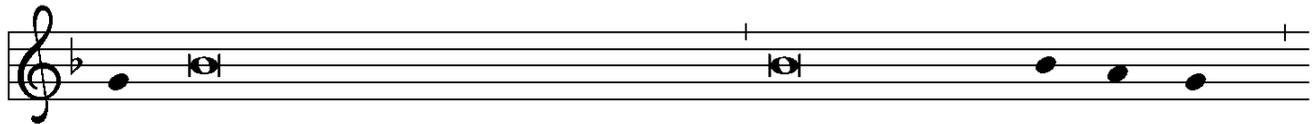
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



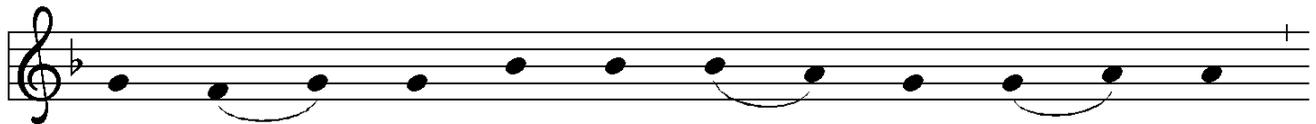
You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the



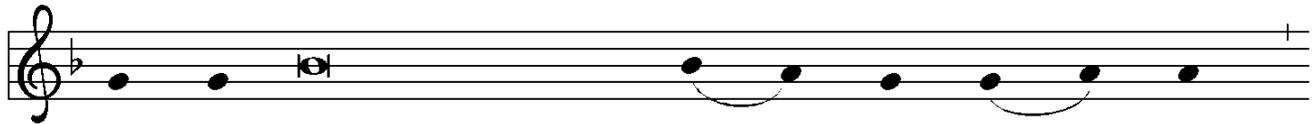
pas - chal feast, that re - newed in the gift of bap - tism,



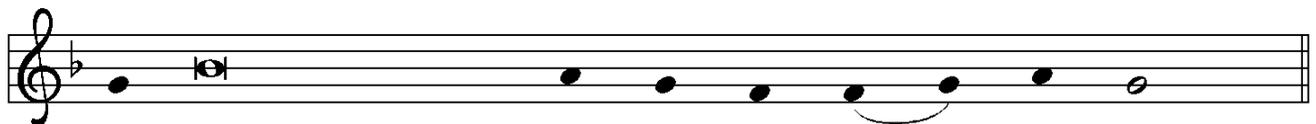
we may come to the full - ness of your grace.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.
In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.
In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.
In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.
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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C Amen

P Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all
the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C Amen

P Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table of mercy, where the feast of life is spread.

Please be seated. *We will practice continuous communion at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to commune.*

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Red Book #335

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Red Book #338

COMMUNION BLESSING

P (Please rise.) The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

BLESSING

P The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C Amen

P The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P The God of all grace bless you now and forever.

C Amen

SENDING OF COMMUNION MINISTERS

P Let us Pray...

C O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

P Let us pray:

C God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the Gift of Life, and especially the gift of the lives of our sisters and brothers who stand before us this day and who recall this month the day of their birth. They rejoice in your gifts of life and love, family and friends.

Bless them with your presence and surround them with your love that they may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to you. We ask this grace and blessing for each one of them through Christ our Lord. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

Red Book #848

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Remember the poor!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

Michel Burkhardt

THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY

Presiding Minister Pastor Bill Ruth
Assisting Minister Marilyn Rowland
Acolyte..... Allie Shank
Lectors Barbara Crawford, Beth Rokaitis
Communion Assistant Beth Rokaitis
Usher/Greeter Shank & Skustad Families
Altar Care..... Pat Norquist



Announcements

Please use your “soft” voice during and following the Prelude, as others may be in prayer and meditation.

Thank you.

The Lenten banner was donated by the Women's Monday Night Bible Study in memory of Dorothy Klee, who is the beloved mother of Kristine Kraft.

The blue banner placed on the wall is donated by the Women's Monday Night Bible Study in loving memory of our sister, Margaret Holtz, whose birthday is March 21st.

Confirmation Class with Pr. Bill Ruth after service at 10:45 am.

Choir Rehearsal after service at 10:45 am.

1st Communion Class after service at 10:45.

Council Meeting this afternoon at 1:00 pm.

Wired Word Potlucks

March 20 at Marsha Waggoner's home and March 21 at the home of Jim and Paula Barton at 6:00 pm for both.

Planning continues for the summer program, Paul's Pilgrimage, now scheduled for June 27-28.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT HAPPENED AFTER EASTER?

What did the mysterious pilgrim talk about?

For answers to this and other questions, make sure to attend the 9:30 Worship Service on Sunday, April 19. You will want to be there!

Emanuel Youth

The Youth Group will be doing an Egg Hunt for the children on Easter Sunday. If you can help out with a donation of wrapped Easter candy or small prizes to fill the eggs, please place them in the box in the Narthex after service. Thank you!

Save the Date

Please join us for ***Easter Sunday Continental Breakfast*** on April 5, following the service. Be sure to sign up so that we know how many people will attend.



Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
Vesper Services

In this journey centered on scripture, we will discuss, meditate, and pray.
We will also sing and worship with a simple evening service.

Lead by Pr. Bill and assisted by Kathleen Reuter and Paula Kroeze,
this Lenten journey will draw you into deeper discipleship
as each week we focus on one key question of Jesus.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MON 16	TUE 17	WED 18	THUR 19	FRI 20	SAT 21	SUN 22
		7:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Mimi's	9:30 am Adult Bible Study with Pr. Roger	OFFICE CLOSED		9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am Confirmation Class
						10:45 am 1st Communion Class 10:45 am Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Lydia Circle @ M. Waggoner's	7:00 pm PFLAG Social Evening	7:00 pm Lenten Vesper Service	1:30 pm Rebecca Circle @ E. Ixcot's	6:00 Wired Word Potluck @ M. Waggoner's	6:00 Wired Word Potluck @ the Barton's	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Presiding Minister	Assistant Minister	Lectors	Communion Assist	Acolyte	Usher Greeter	Altar Care
Mar 22	Pastor Bill Ruth	Bill Reinheimer	K Reuter M Epting	Dave Henke	Alora Skustad	Dieterich/ Reuter	Kathy Obermeyer
Mar 29	Pastor Bill Ruth	David Holtz	P Kroeze D Santana	Dianne Santana	Alora Skustad	Clarke Family	Lois Silva
Apr 2 Maundy Thursday	Pastor Bill Ruth	Paula Barton	D Holtz M Dieterich	Mary Lou Dieterich	Kailyn Knoll	Smith/ Knoll	Waggoner, Wilke, Knoll

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

March 22 5th Sunday of Lent	March 29 Palm Sunday
Jeremiah 31:31–34 Psalm 51:1–12 Hebrews 5:5–10 John 12:20–33	Isaiah 50:4–9a Psalm 31:9–16 Philippians 2:5–11 Mark 14:1–15:47



Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests: Vincent Porter—recovery, healing and well-being (Ixcot); William Mangnall (Mary Lou’s brother) for the loss of his wife, Mary Lou Mangnall.

Our Members: Drew Shank; Ben Knoll; Lori Knoll; Susan Hayes; Dianne Santana; Carolyn Crenwelge; Bob Dailey; Marilyn Rowland

Our Homebound Members: Harvey Hardel, Florence Broden, Kay Altmas, Shelda Fritts; Alma Johnson, Esther Johnson

Our Family: Sharon & Harold (Owen); Meghan Ewald (Smith); Torrie & Nathan (Teaney); Marsha Schlipman (Nelson); Geraldine Walton (Hollmann); Ian McKenzie and Marian McKenzie (Schmidt); Steve Jeske (B. Norquist); Don Harlow (Virginia Dall’s son-in-law); Trevor Jeske (Steve’s son) (B. Norquist); Heide Brockmann (Petersen); Suzanne Stiver Lie (Reinheimer); Reta, Edgar, Bianca (Wise); Riegan family (Scott); Lisa Dieterich (Dieterich); Nicole and Doug Souza (Santana); Alexandra & Gregory Taylor, and Joy Morgan (Scott); Angela Gufstafson (Dieterich); Joyce, Logans (Scott); Roy Harris (Dieterich); John Berlin (Lori Skustad’s father); Corbin (Hollmann); Joyce Morgan, Alexandria & Gregory Taylor (Scott); Ali Moraitis (Watkins); Doug McKenzie (Schmidt)

Our Friends: Doyle Williams, Gene Loftis (Teaney); Nancy (Owen); Donna (Waggoner); Roger Warner (Schmidt); Kathy Laughton and Loy Rodriguez (Hardins); Donna Thayer (Petersen); Dr. Roger Vogelzang and family (Reinheimer); Juan Raza & Dennis Faught (Teaney)

We Pray for Peace in the Middle East, and for all those serving in our armed forces.

Ryan Dangerfield, USAF in Lakenheath Air Base, England and **Joey Sabel, USMC** in Louisville, Kentucky (Marilyn & Chuck Rowland’s grandson & grandson-in-law), **Timothy Kramer** in Afghanistan (Megan Armes’ brother), **Ryan Powell** (grandson of Yvonne Troedson) USN, Connecticut.

MARCH 15, 2015

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by Christ in our journey of repentance and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. You are invited to kneel. (*Pause for silence.*)

Loving God, make your church bold proclaimers of the gospel, so that those who do not know the depth of your love in Christ will hear and believe. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give us hearts filled with love for your creation, so that our words and deeds bear witness to the unending care you have for the whole cosmos. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Encourage nations to work together for the sake of all people. Break down barriers that prejudice has built up, and restore the dignity of every living thing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Provide respite and healing for all who suffer. Hold all people in your expansive love, and restore wholeness of body, mind, and spirit. We pray that you will gently touch with healing those who we name before you now, either silently or aloud. (*Pause for silence.*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Turn our hearts to praise as we are forgiven, healed, and freed from every evil that binds us. Shine your light upon us, so that nothing about our life in you is hidden. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Resurrecting God, we remember those who now worship at your throne. With expectant hearts we await the day when all will behold you in glory. Hear us, O God.

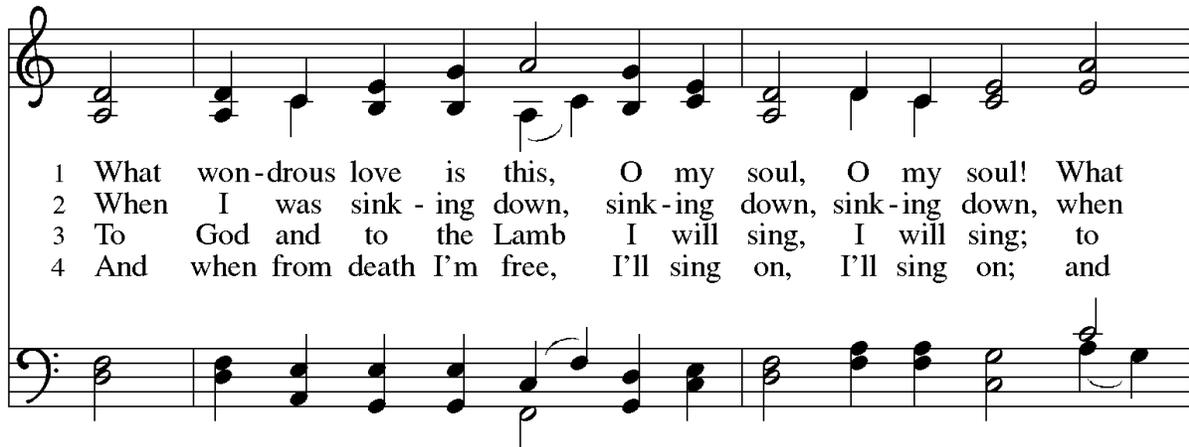
Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

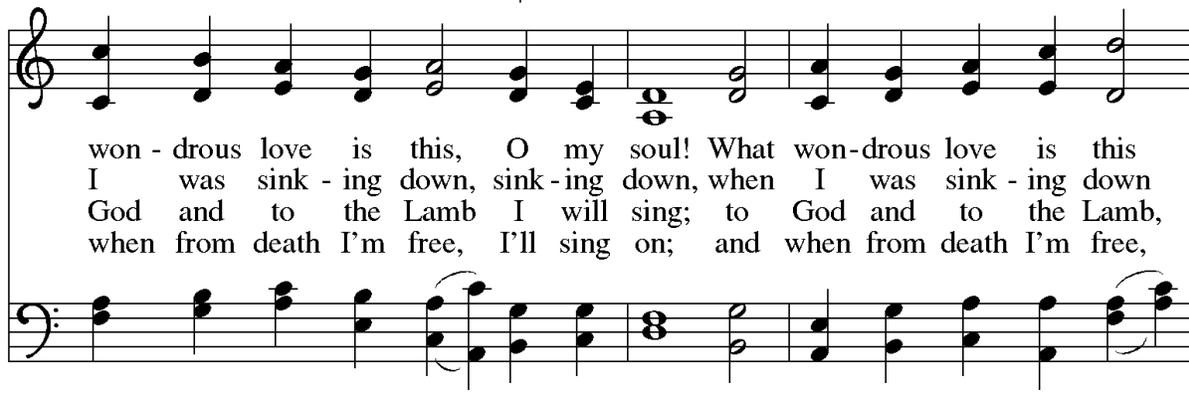
Amen.

Entrance Hymn #666

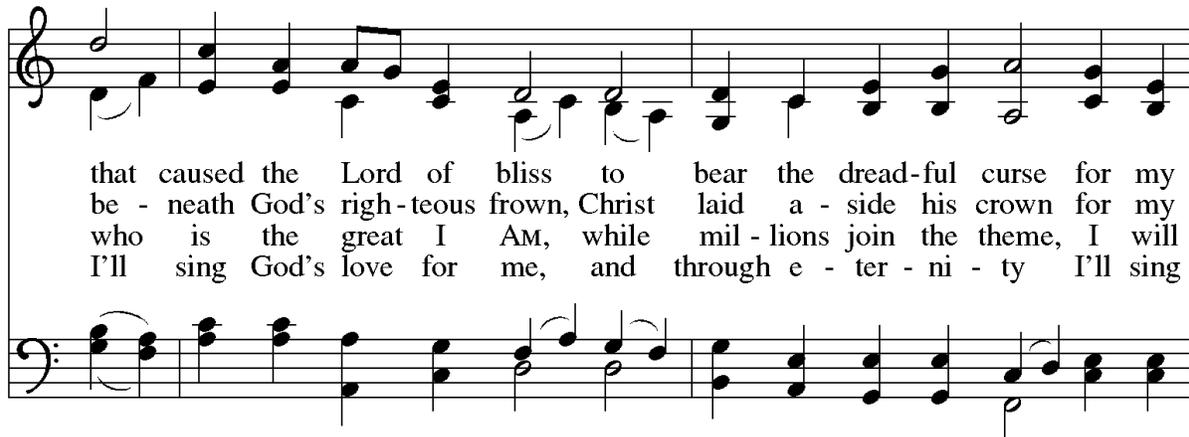
What Wondrous Love Is This



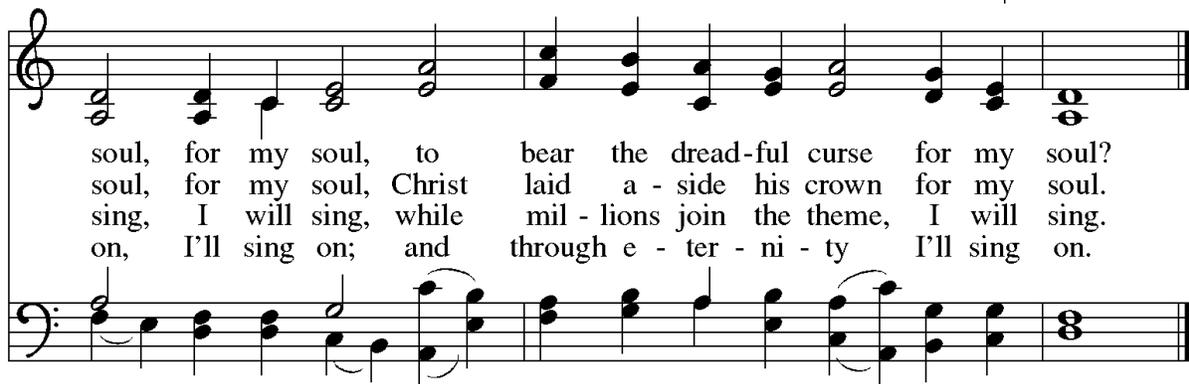
1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Hymn of the Day #323

God Loved the World

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

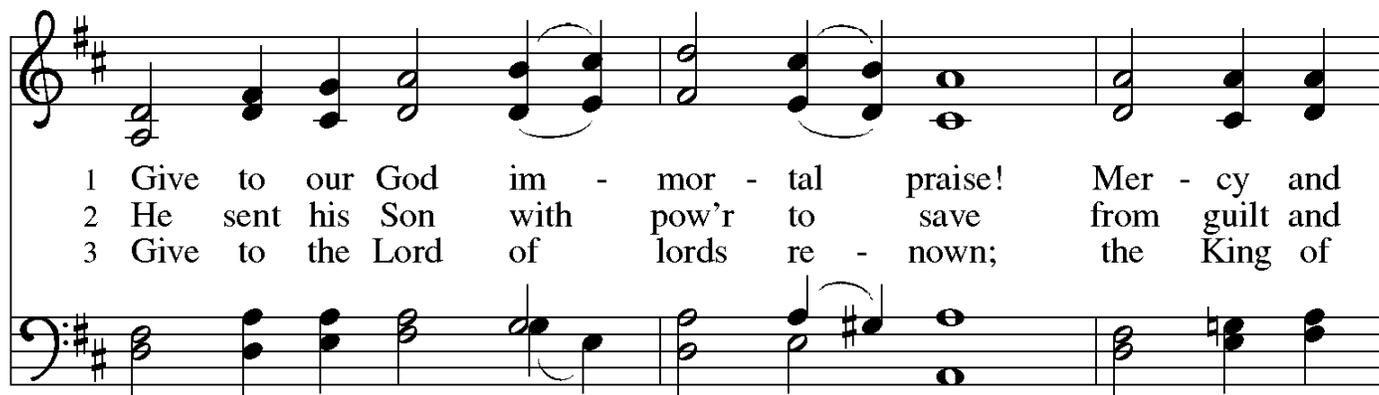
Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

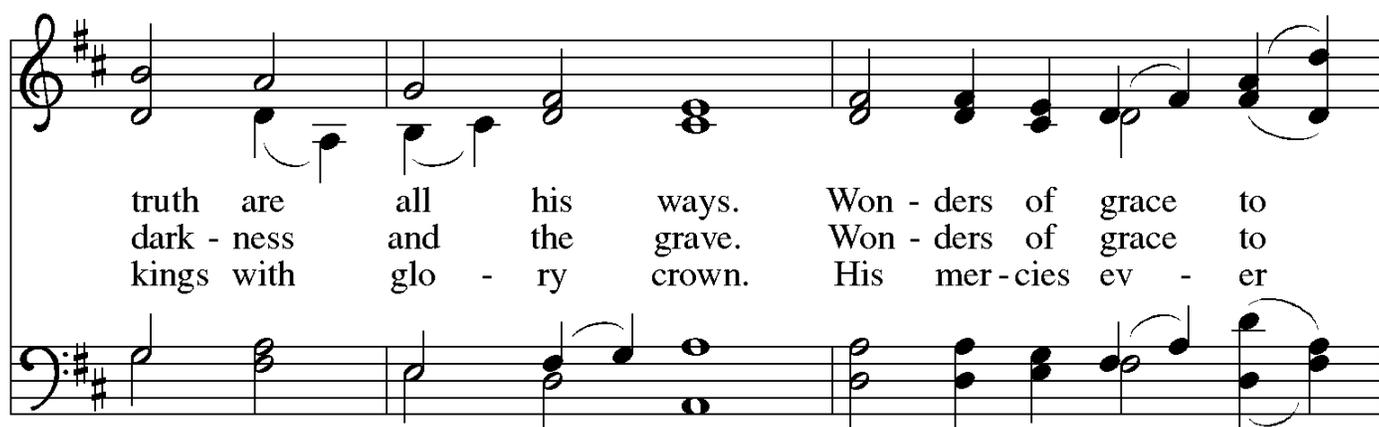
Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.
Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

Sending Hymn #848

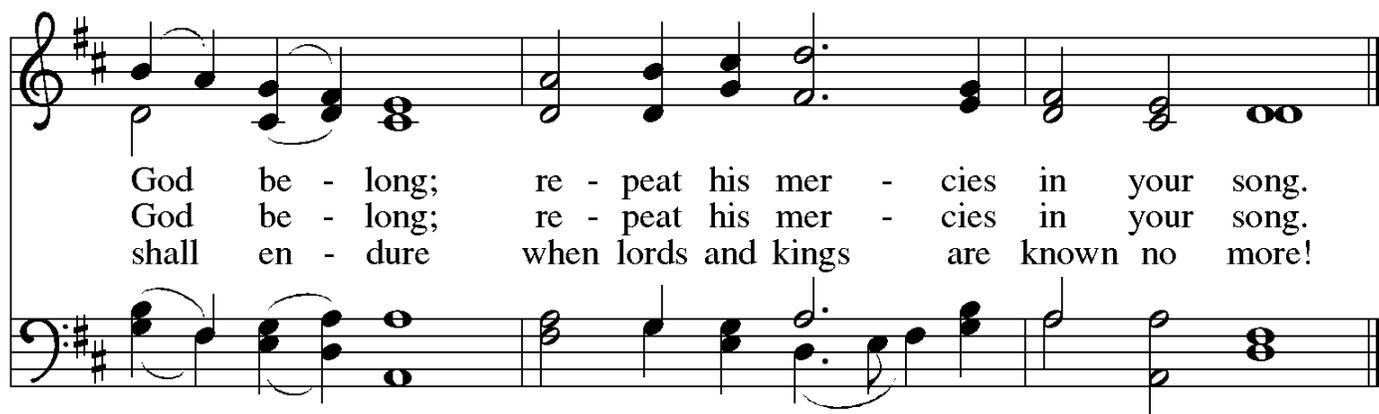
Give to Our God Immortal Praise!



1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of



truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er



God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793