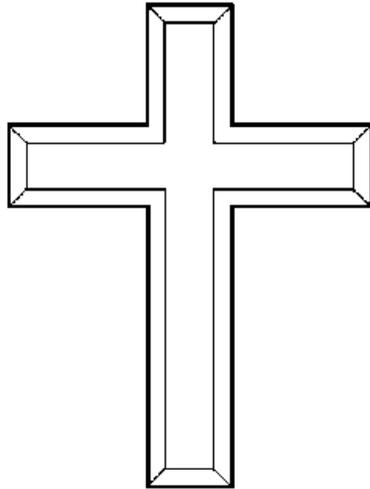


# Church of the Holy Cross



## The Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

10 a.m.

Holy Communion

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375

248-427-1175

[holycrossnovi@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com)

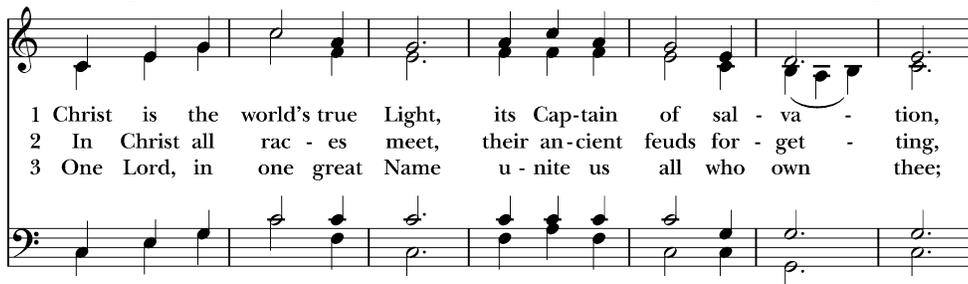
[www.holycrossnovi.org](http://www.holycrossnovi.org)

# Gathering of the People

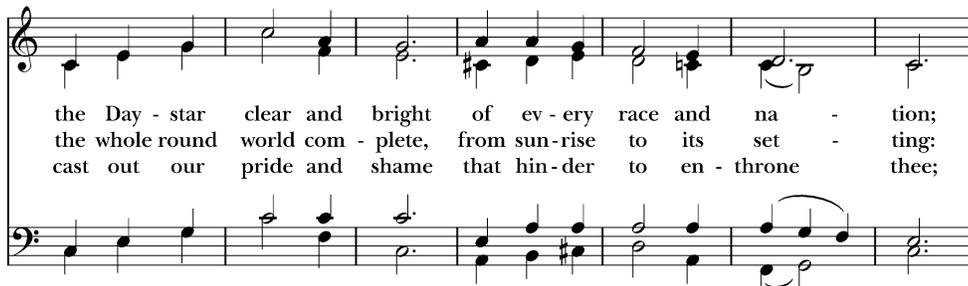
## Welcome

### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn H 542 *Christ is the world's true light*



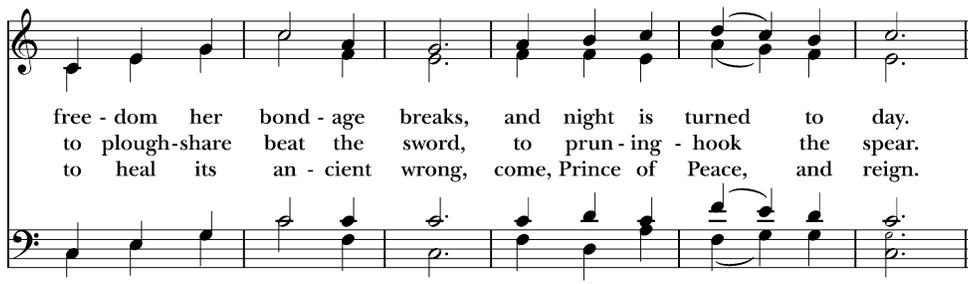
1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,  
2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an-cient feuds for - get - ting,  
3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;



the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;  
the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting;  
cast out our pride and shame that hin - der to en - throne thee;



new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:  
when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,  
the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;



free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.  
to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.  
to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

Words: George Wallace Briggs (1892-1955), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *St. Joan*, Percy E. B. Collier (1892-?). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

### Call to Worship (Words from Sundays and Seasons & WLP 794)

*Celebrant*

The Savior of the nations has come,

**People**

**To light our way and heal our wounds.**

*Celebrant*

Many are the light beams from the one light.

**People**

**Our one light is Jesus.**

*Celebrant*

Many are the branches of the one tree.

**People**

**We are one in Christ.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise MHSO 18 *Halle, halle, halle*

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

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

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

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - - - jah!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!', 'hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!', 'hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah! Hal - le -', and 'lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - - - jah!'.

Words and Melody: Traditional Caribbean. Arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954) © 1995 Augsburg Fortress, PO Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 [www.augsburgfortress.org]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 49:1-7

*Reader* A reading from Isaiah

Listen to me, O coastlands,  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The LORD called me before I was born,  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.  
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
 Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
 But I said, "I have labored in vain,  
 I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
 yet surely my cause is with the LORD,  
 and my reward with my God."  
 And now the LORD says,  
 who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
 to bring Jacob back to him,  
 and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
 for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
 and my God has become my strength--  
 he says,  
 "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
 I will give you as a light to the nations,  
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."  
 Thus says the LORD,  
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
 the slave of rulers,  
 "Kings shall see and stand up,  
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**People Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 40:1-12**

*The congregation will read the verses in bold.*

- 1 I waited patiently upon the LORD; \*  
 he stooped to me and heard my cry.
- 2 **He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \*  
 he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.**
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; \*  
 many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.
- 4 **Happy are they who trust in the LORD! \*  
 they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.**
- 5 Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!  
 how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
 there is none who can be compared with you.
- 6 **Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \*  
 but they are more than I can count.**
- 7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure \*  
 (you have given me ears to hear you);
- 8 **Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, \*  
 and so I said, "Behold, I come."**
- 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*  
 'I love to do your will, O my God;  
 your law is deep in my heart.'

10 **I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
and that, O LORD, you know.**

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

12 **You are the LORD;  
do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

*Reader* A reading from first Corinthians.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Sequence Hymn** MHSO 46 *Take o take me as I am*

*The hymn is sung before and after the gospel reading.*

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;  
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Words and Music: John L. Bell (b. 1948) © 1994 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland) (admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:29-42

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

## **Sermon**

The Rev Jonathan Sam

## **Nicene Creed**

*The people recite this ancient statement of faith together.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Creator, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Creator,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Creator.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Creator and the Son,  
who with the Creator and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
and who has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy universal and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People (BCP, Form II)

*Reader* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops Bonnie and Sean; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*

*Reader* I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the wellbeing of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

*Reader* I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

*Reader* I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God. *Silence*

*Reader* Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

*Please offer your own prayers silently, aloud, or typed into the Zoom chat to be read.*

*The Celebrant concludes:*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution (from Sundays and Seasons)

*Deacon* Let us name our faults and failings and come to the Lord seeking grace:  
**All** **Holy One, we encounter you in our lives and try to follow faithfully, but so often we get lost or turn away. We try to love our neighbors and ourselves, and even, by your grace, to love our enemies, but we fail. We take the wrong path and stray from the way of your love. forgive us, Lord, and guide us back to you.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

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

## Liturgy of the Table

### Offertory Hymn WLP 800 *Precious Lord*

*All sing the Offertory while the Deacon sets the table and the offering plate is passed.*

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me  
2. When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger  
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Precious Lord' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. There are three verses of lyrics provided below the notation.

stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; \_\_\_\_\_  
 near, when my life is al - most gone; \_\_\_\_\_  
 near, and the day is past and gone; \_\_\_\_\_

— through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the  
 — hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I  
 — at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my

light, take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_  
 fall, take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_  
 hand, take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_

Words: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993). Music: Thomas A. Dorsey; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Copyright © 1938 by Unichappell Music, Inc. Copyright renewed. International copyright secured. All rights reserved.

### Communion Prayer (BCP Prayer A)

*Celebrant* God be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus** LEVAS 255 *Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts

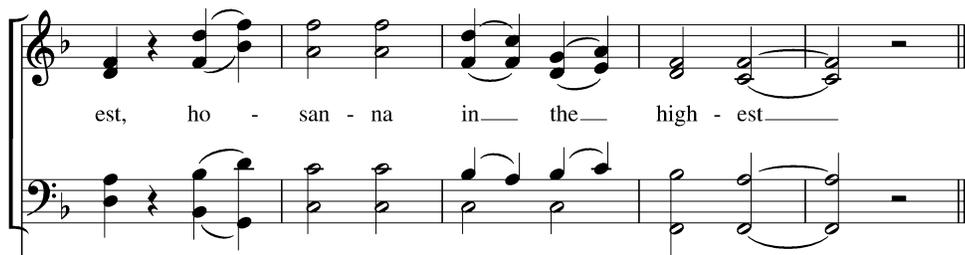
Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord

Ho - san - na in the high



Music: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), *A Mass for a Soulful People*. Copyright © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources, 10802 N. 23rd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85029. All Rights Reserved.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.  
**AMEN.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

As Jesus Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

**Breaking of Bread** – *Celebrant takes and breaks the bread.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

**Fraction Anthem WLP 878** *Whoever comes to me*

Who-ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and  
who-ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.

Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Fraction Anthems, Canticles, and Chants*. Copyright © 1997 Carl Haywood.

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God. Holy gifts for Holy people. **Amen.**

**The Communion of the People**

*No one who comes to the bread and wine seeking Christ is turned away. The words of distribution are:*

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. Amen.

The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. Amen.

**Communion Music** H 671 *Amazing Grace*

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
\* 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me  
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.  
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.*

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: New Britain, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

## Announcements & Blessings of Life Events

### Concluding Prayer

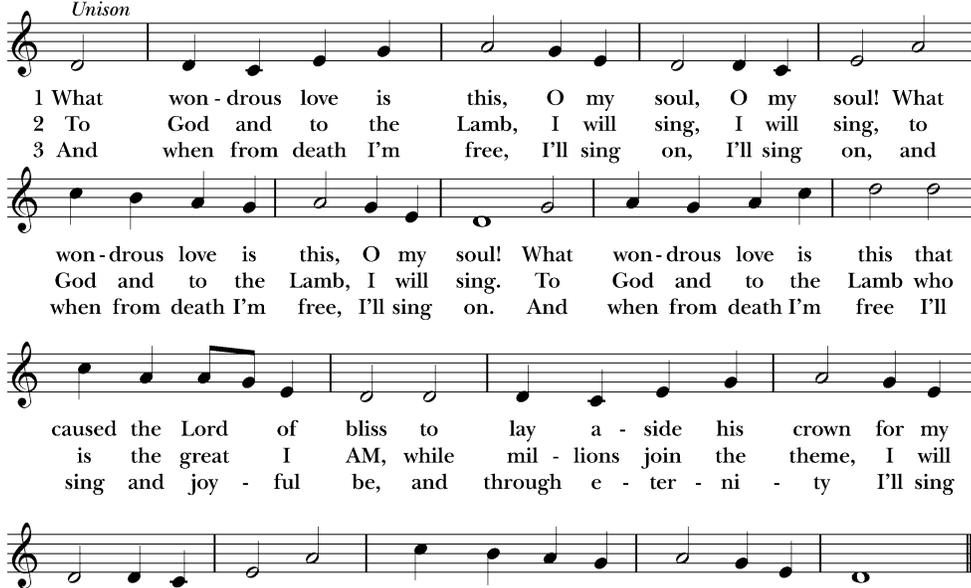
*Celebrant* Let us pray together.

**People** **O God of our ancestors, God of all people, before whose face the human generations pass away: We give thanks that in you we are for ever at home, and that the broken fragments of our history are gathered up in the redeeming act of your dear Son remembered in this holy sacrament of his body and blood. Now send us out in the power of your Holy Spirit to live and work for your praise and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

### The Blessing

**Sending Hymn** H 439 (v1-3) *What wonderful love is this*

*Unison*



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to  
3 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 that  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my  
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay 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.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926).

### Going Into the World

*Deacon* Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, ALLELUIA!**

### Postlude

*This brings the worship to a close.*

*All are invited for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.*

#### Ministers of Today's Service

Reader 1: Ed Happ  
Reader 2: Karen Wang  
Prayer: Malcolm Wang  
Greeter/Usher: Bruce Hinkle  
Zoom Host: Shirley Chen  
Counters:

#### Altar Guild

**Joanne Quinlan**, Carole Abshier, Gael Grossman,  
Anne Hamilton, Katherine Housman, Cathi Peterson

#### Sunday School Teachers

**Teri Landreth**, Renee Brennan, Pimam Manzi,  
Ashlie Price

#### Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry  
Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

#### Staff

Administrator: Teri Landreth  
Music Director: Kate Autry  
Sexton: Katie Forbing

Music printed Copyright ©2026 Church  
Publishing Incorporated All rights reserved.