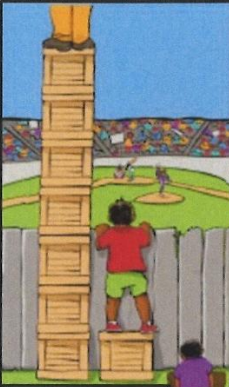
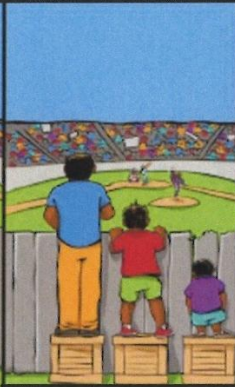
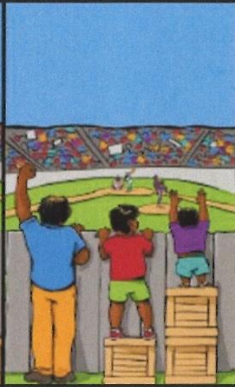
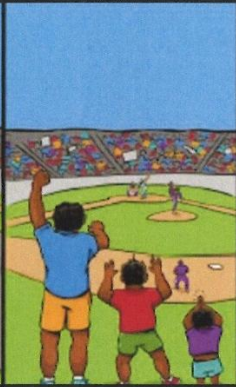


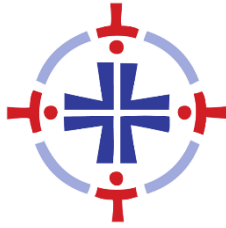


St. Simon's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

			
Reality	Equality	Equity	Justice
Some get more supports than is needed, while others get less than is needed.	Everyone benefits from the same supports. They are being treated equally.	Everyone gets the supports they need. Individuals are given different supports to have equal access.	Everyone can see the game without supports because the cause of inequity was addressed.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 20, 2026



Welcome to St. Simon's

Celebrating God's love for all. Embodying Christ in the world.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. Welcome.

St Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites all who seek God into community, questions and doubts included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Welcome, Children. You are invited as full participants in our worship just as you are. God delights in you.

Welcome, Elders. Your wisdom and experience are valued in our community. God has shaped you and you are beautiful.

Welcome, you.

Welcome, everyone, to God's table. This is the table of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and all who seek God are invited to share in communion. If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest and we will be glad to give you a blessing instead. If you wish to have communion brought to you at your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please notify an usher.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.
May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*

*All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome

We are here because Jesus has called us -
strangers and friends,
locals and visitors,
believers and doubters,
the certain and the curious.

It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers
and invites to his table where, in bread and wine,
he meets us
and through him we, who are different,
Are joined to each other.

So come,
not because you understand,
but because you are understood.

Come,
not because of how you feel,
but because God has food for you.

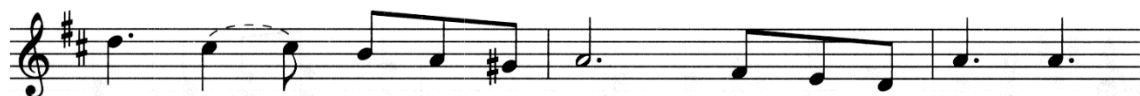
Come,
Not because you deserve a place,
but because Jesus invites you,
just as you are.

Opening Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”



1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, Vi - sions of
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest; Watch - ing and wait - ing,



blest child of God, Born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 bring from a - bove Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 look - ing a - bove, Filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, Prais - ing my



Sav - ior all the day long; This is my sto - ry,



this is my song, Prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift.
 And blessed be **God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Gloria

S202

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,
we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly
King, God the Fa-ther Al - might - y.
4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;
5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the

right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up-on us.

8. For thou on-ly art ho-ly; thou on-ly art the Lord; 9. thou

on-ly, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most

high in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.____

A - - - - - men.

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

Jonah 3:10-4:11

A reading from the book of Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a

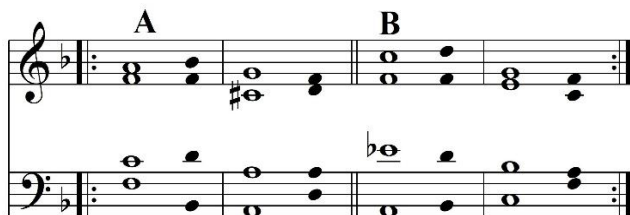
hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 145:1-8



- A I will exalt you, God my king,
for ever bless your name.
- B I will bless you every day,
for ever praise your name.
- A Great is the Lord, highly to be praised,
great beyond our reach.
- B Age to age proclaims your works,
recounts your mighty deeds.
- A I ponder your splendor and glory
and all your wonderful works.
- B They reveal your fearful power,
I tell of your great deeds.
- A They recall your ample goodness,
joyfully sing your justice.
- B Gracious and merciful is the Lord,
slow to anger, full of love.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

All join in singing once through both before and after the gospel.

Organ Introduction: 



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. A - men.

*The Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last

worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Jenny Hulen

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

***The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, 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 Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
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 man.
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 the Father.
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 Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

The Prayers of the People

Recognizing God is always present and active in the events of our world and our lives, let us welcome all we experience, consenting to God's action in whatever circumstance we find ourselves.

We open ourselves to the present moment and embrace what is
(Silence)

We welcome fear and anxiety, inviting God's presence in them
(*Silence*)

We welcome joy and delight, recognizing God's face there
(*Silence*)

We welcome brokenness and vulnerability, resting in God's tenderness toward us and those we love. We especially hold Mary Edith, Jan, Sunita, Maria, Sandy, Judy, Martin, Makayla, Teri-Ellen, James, Marc, Trish, Pat and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital in your light
(*Silence*)

We welcome the memory of all those we love but see no more, especially Mark Nystuen
(*Silence*)

We hold our enemies in compassion
(*Silence*)

We release our need to control and our fear of the unknown
(*Silence*)

We surrender our judgments and expectations
(*Silence*)

We let go of our desire for esteem and approval
(*Silence*)

We consent to your action in us and in the world around us, offering ourselves to you and to each other. Through Christ our brother, with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. **Amen**

***The Confession and Absolution**

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

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**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engagement Opportunities

Offertory *Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsims*

Offertory Hymn

“Be still my soul”



1. Be still, my soul— the Lord is on thy side!
2. Be still, my soul— thy God doth un - der - take
3. Be still, my soul— the hour is has - t'ning on



1. Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
2. To guide the fu - ture as he has the past;
3. When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



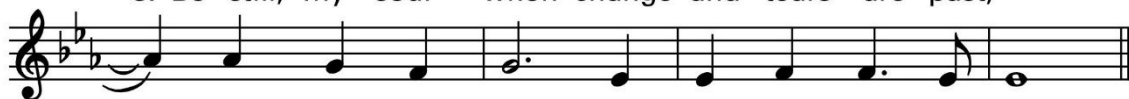
1. Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide—
2. Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake—
3. When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



1. In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main.
2. All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
3. Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re-stored.



1. Be still, my soul— thy best, thy heav'n - ly friend
2. Be still, my soul— the waves and winds still know
3. Be still, my soul— when change and tears are past,



1. Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
2. His voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
3. All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

*Presentation of the Gifts



Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures



here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Cre -



a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you thanks, Holy One, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment. And grateful as we are for the world we know, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering; his fearless dying, and his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it and said, “This is my body, broken for you.”

Later he took a cup of wine and said, “This is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Take it, all of you, to remember me.”

Merciful God, send now in kindness your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

By Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Holy God, throughout all the ages of ages.

AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, | for ever and ever. | Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains a whole rest followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, a half note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics "O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -" are written below. The second staff continues with a half note G, a quarter note A, a half note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics "way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -" are written below. The third staff continues with a half note G, a quarter note A, a half note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics "on us. O Lamb of God, that" are written below.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, grant us thy peace.

Behold what you are.

May we become what we receive.

The Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words:

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion.

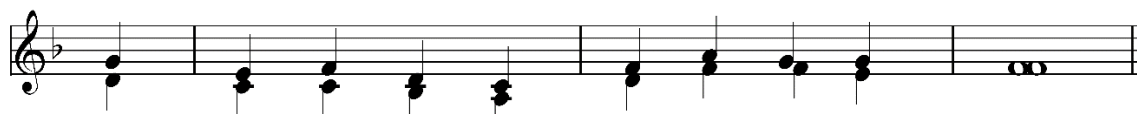
Come to the center aisle and forward to receive the Bread. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Having received the Bread then step to the left to receive the Wine from the Chalice or to the right to receive the Wine or Grape Juice from individual cups. Grape Juice is offered in the middle of the individual cups tray. Empty cups can be placed in the basket located on the windowsill on the right side of our worship space.

Communion Hymn “Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord”



1 Draw nigh and take the Bo - dy of the Lord,
 2 Saved by that Bo - dy and that ho - ly Blood,
 3 Sal - va - tion's giv - er, Christ, the on - ly Son,
 4 Of - fered was he for great - est and for least,
 5 Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,
 7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,



1 and drink the ho - ly Blood for you out - poured.
 2 with souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.
 3 by his dear cross and blood the vic - tory won.
 4 him - self the Vic - tim, and him - self the Priest.
 5 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
 7 gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

*Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

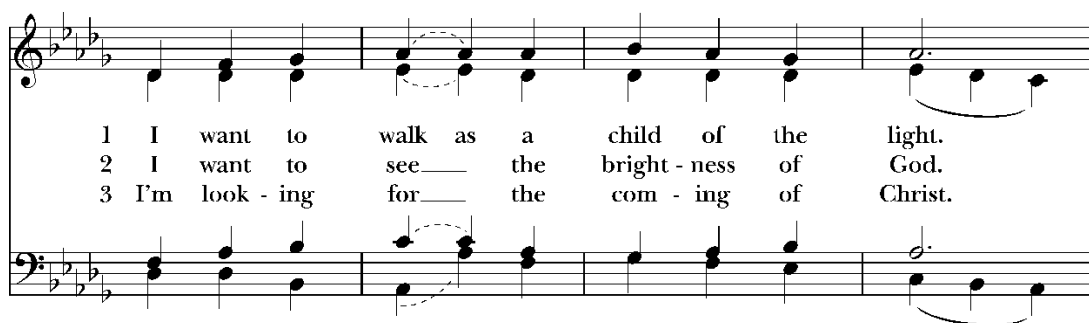
When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

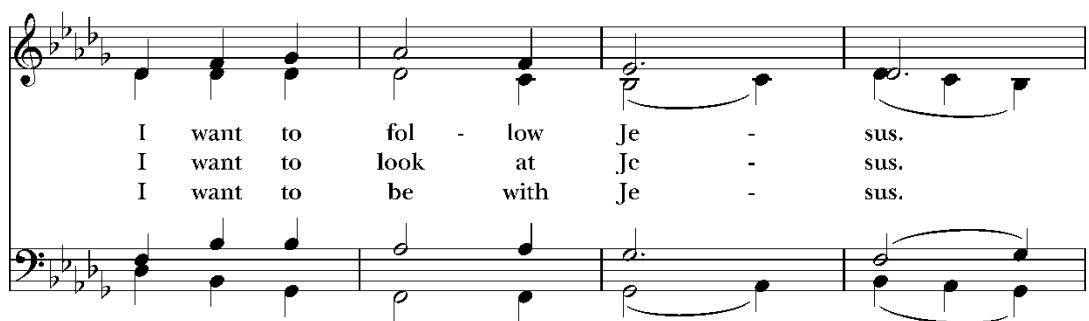
***The Blessing**

May the wind of the Spirit startle your senses
and blow through your life;
may the fire of the Spirit scorch your complacency
and light your way.
And may the blessing of the Holy One—
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer—
rest with you now and forever more. **Amen.**

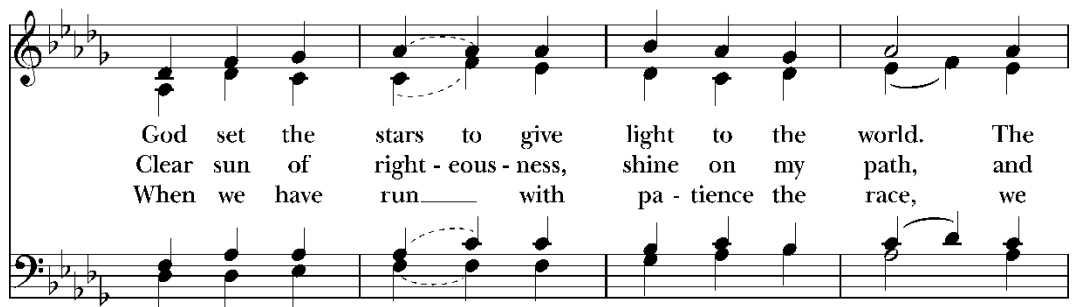
*Closing Hymn 490 ♪ “I want to walk as a child of the light” *Houston*



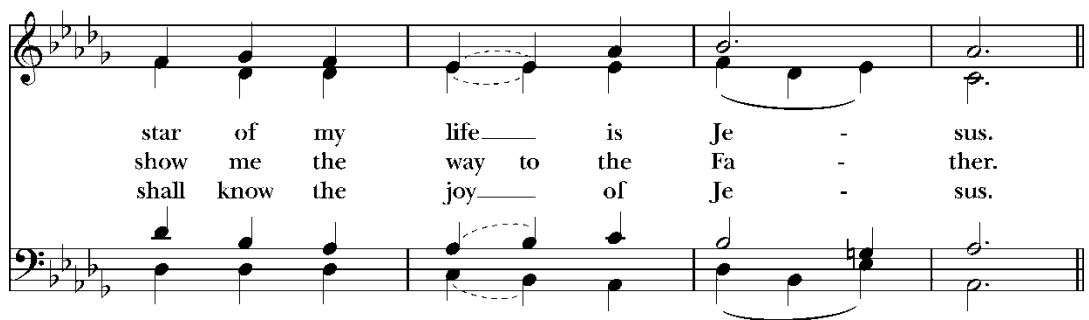
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa - tience the race, we



star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *ril.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

*Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

St. Simon's Episcopal Church

717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005
847.259.2930 ~ office@saintsimons.org ~ www.saintsimons.org
Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*
Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*
Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Sara Lewandowski
Readers	Allison Newhouse Michael Medsker
Intercessor	Bob Lindquist
Usher	Rachel Jarosik
Altar Guild	Jeana Clark
Porter	Rachel Jarosik
Pianist	Martin Pazdioch
Technical Production Team	Brian Kuczynski

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