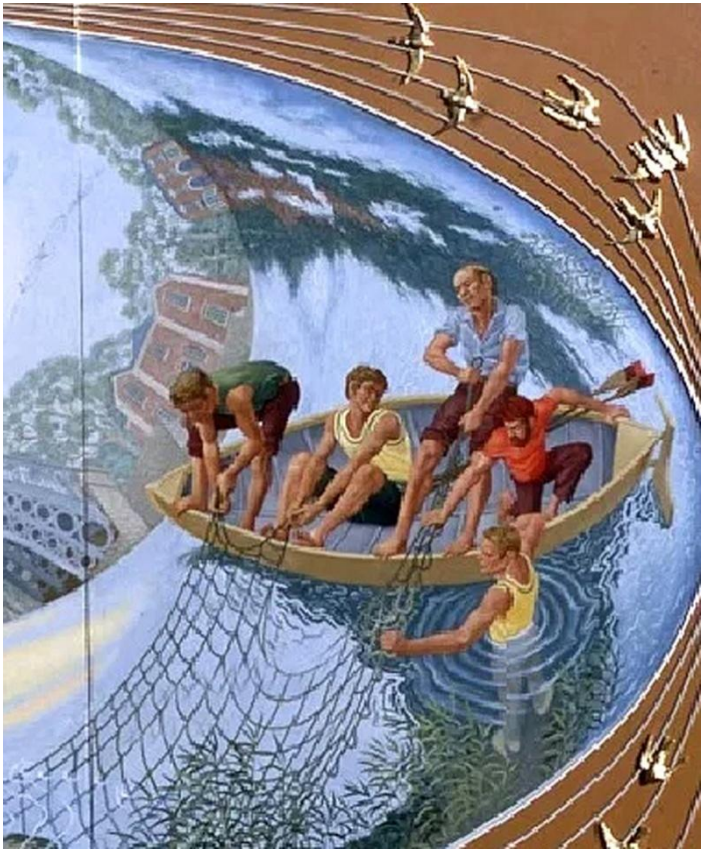
St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, January 25, 2026

Welcome to St. Simon's

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)

St. Simon's exists so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring. While there are many, many ways God's abundance comes to us, here at St. Simon's we understand our call to help each other and our neighbors…

…experience delight and joy as a way to connect with God.
…have basic needs met as a way to be safe.
…enjoy connection to community as a way to avoid loneliness.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. St. Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites everyone to this abundant life, doubts and questions 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.

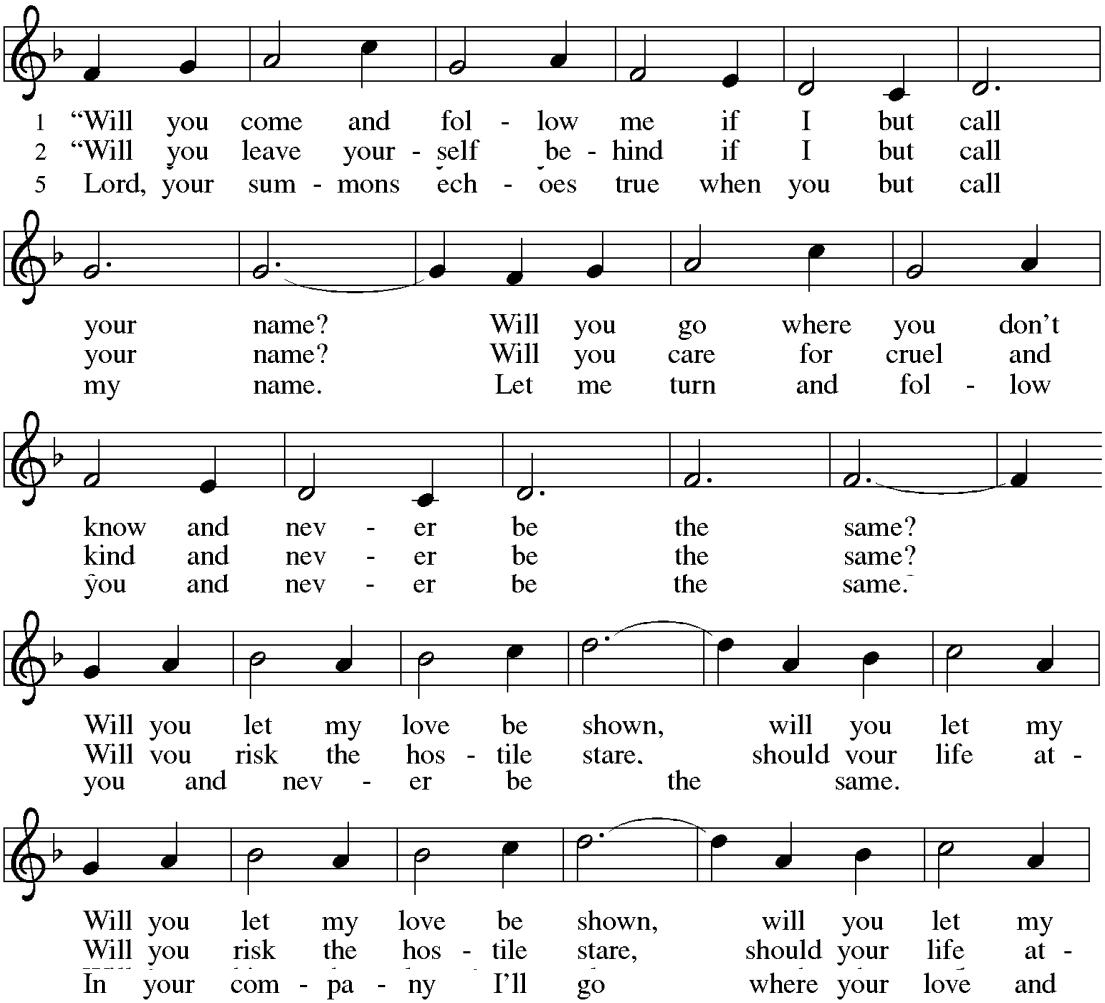
Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.
May you encounter God in this community.

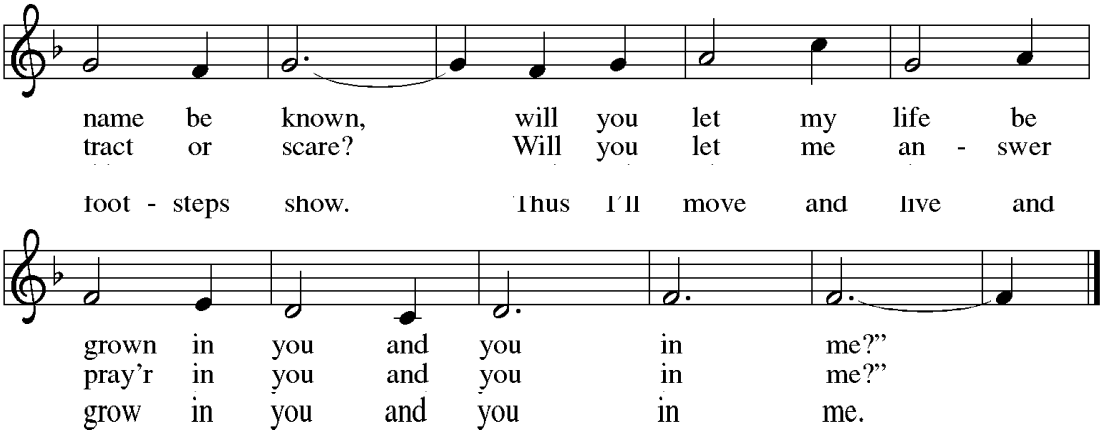
The Holy Eucharist

** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*

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

Processional Hymn "Will you come and follow me"

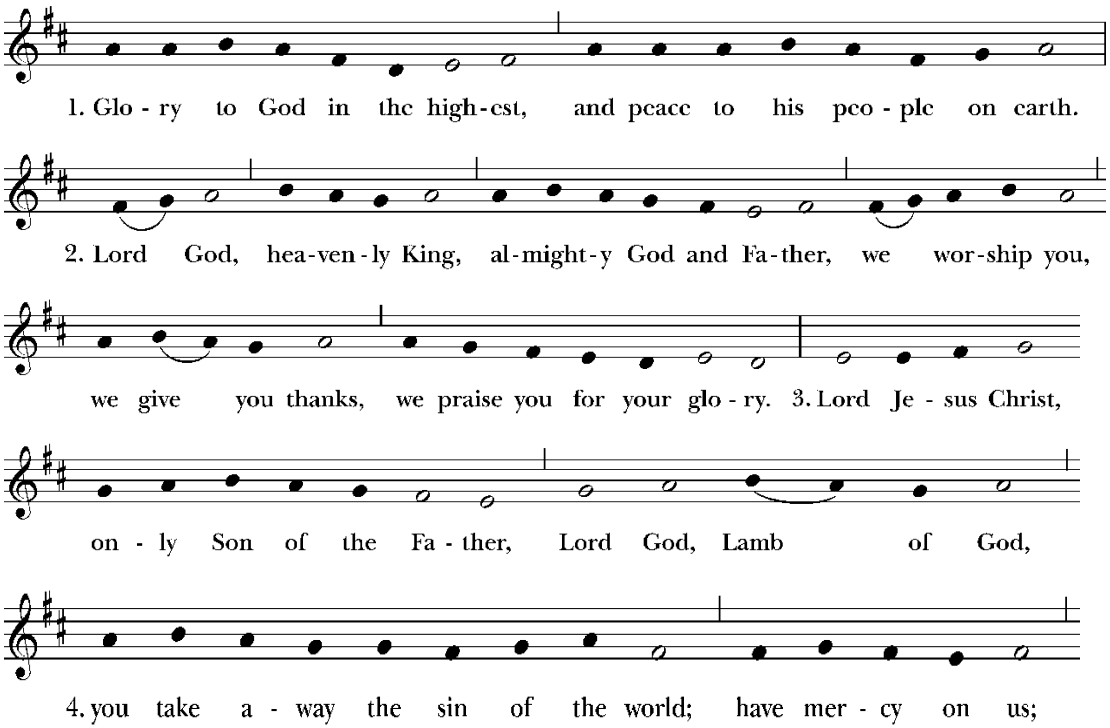


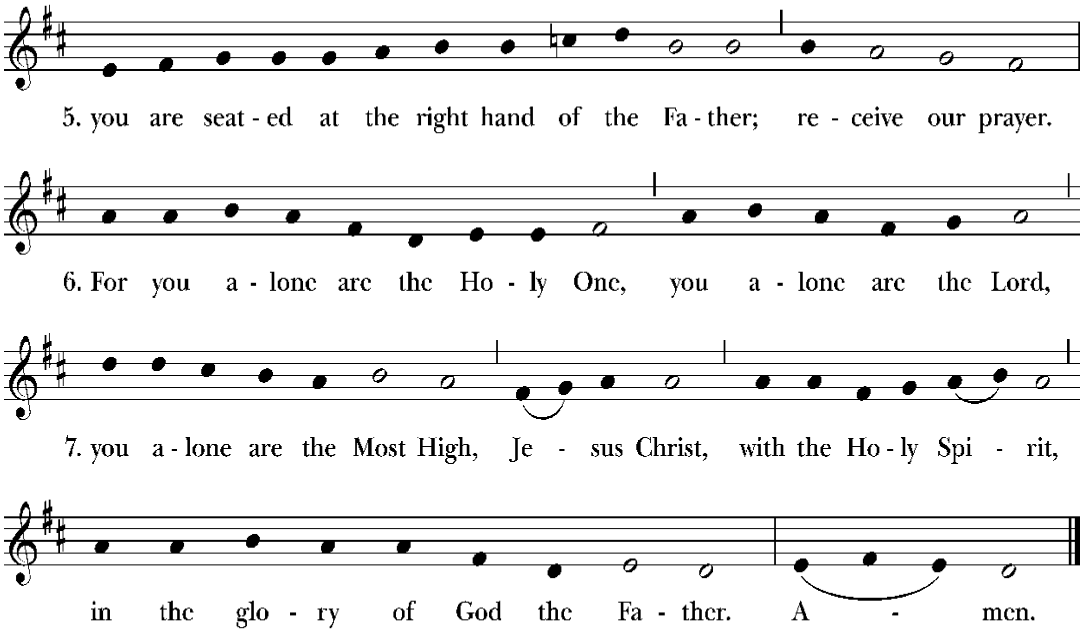


Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift.
You come to set your people free.

The Gloria

S-277





The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; 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 Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;

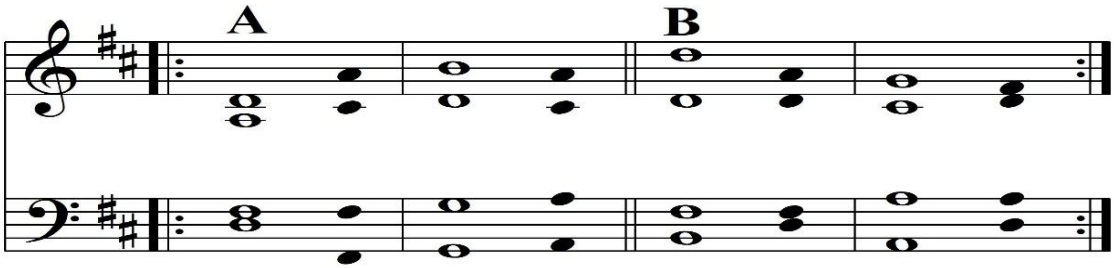
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

The Psalter

Psalm 27:1, 5-13



A The Lord is my saving light;
whom should I fear?
B God is my fortress;
what should I dread?

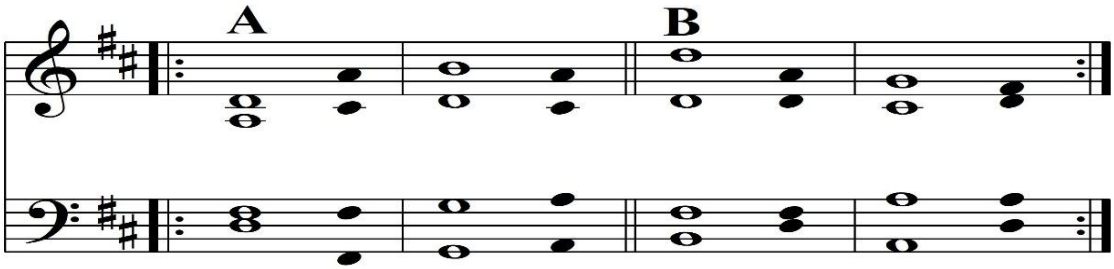
A One thing I ask the Lord,
one thing I seek: to live in the house of God
B every day of my life,
caught up in God's beauty, at prayer in his temple.

A The Lord will hide me there,
hide my life from at-tack:
B a sheltering tent a-bove me,
a firm rock be-low.

A I am now beyond reach
of those who be-siege me.
B In his temple I will offer a joyful sacrifice,
I will play and sing to God.

A O God, listen to me;
be gracious, answer me.
B Deep within me a voice says,
"Look for the face of God!"

A So I look for your face,
I beg you not to hide.



B Do not shut me out in anger,
help me in-stead.

A Do not abandon or de-sert me,
my savior, my God.
B If my parents re-ject-ed me,
still God would take me in.

A Teach me how to live,
lead me on the right road away from my enemies.
B Do not leave me to their malice;
liars breathing violence rise to swear a-gainst me.

A I know I will see how good God is
while I am still a-live.
B Trust in the Lord. Be strong.
Be brave. Trust in the Lord.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from the first letter to the church at Corinth.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul,"

or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

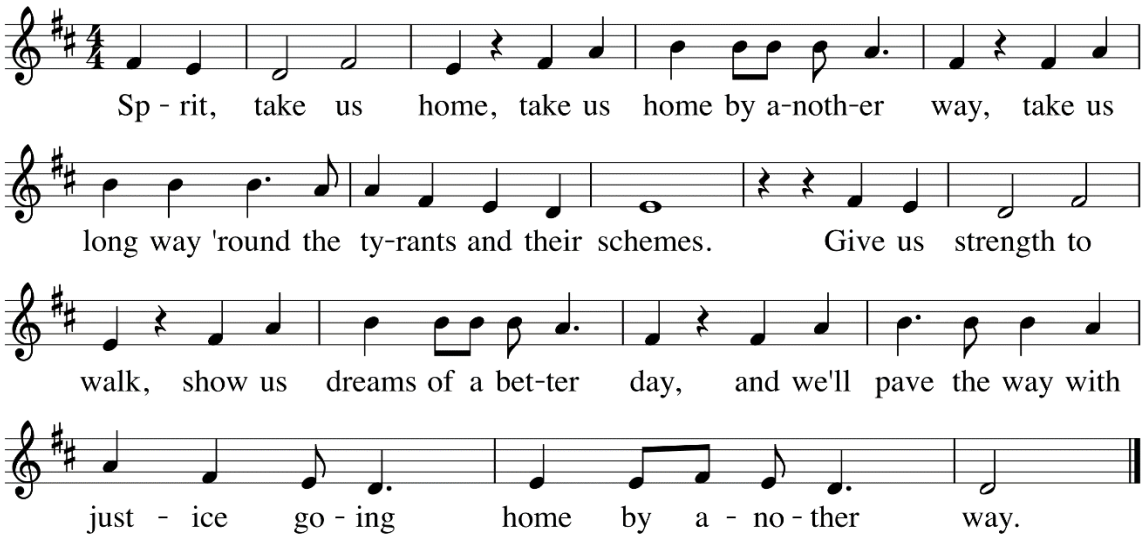
For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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 both before and after the gospel.



*The Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

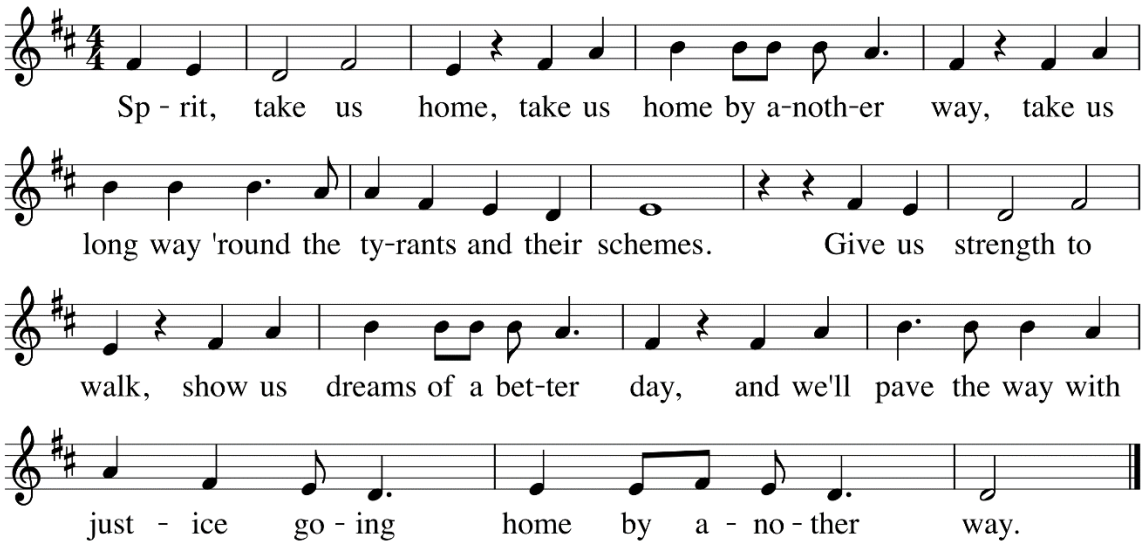
"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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



The Sermon

Myk Snider

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

*An Affirmation

As children of God, we affirm:

That God, who is Love, created all and called it good,
that God is present with all of creation,
and that, in darkness and in light, God is faithful;
therefore we, too, seek to be faithful.

That Jesus came to show us Love with a human face,
that he taught justice and reconciliation and
suffered on our behalf,
and that through his faithful example, he embodies hope;
therefore we, too, seek to be people of justice,
reconciliation, and hope.

That the Holy Spirit guides and accompanies us,
that this same Spirit offers wisdom discernment,
and that, when we are open, the Spirit can always find a way;
therefore, we seek to be people filled with God's Spirit:
discerning, loving and transforming our world.
Amen.

*The Prayers of the People

BCP Form II, Modified

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Paula, our Bishop, for this gathering, and for all we who are ministers by virtue of our baptism.
Pray for the Church.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers for peace, especially in areas of conflict, for goodwill among nations, and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers for our country, for our President, Donald, for mutual respect across differences, and for an end to the endemic violence in thought and action in our communities.
Pray we may see Christ in one another.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers for this congregation, for the Holy Spirit's guidance in all we do, and for courage to follow where God leads.
Pray for clarity.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers for all refugees, for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, the disappeared, and those in prison. Especially we remember Jan Becker, Mike Bruce, Sharon Grieger, Christopher Hay, Sandra Janowski, Sunita Johnston, Bonnie Liess, Jerry Shields, Judy Wade, Maria Whelan, and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

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.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers and thanksgivings for this congregation, for our neighbors, friends, and families.
Pray for all those to whom we are connected.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

I ask your prayers for all those who rejoice with us, but on another shore and in a greater light.
Pray for those who have died.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat or feed

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.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.
Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent,
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. 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

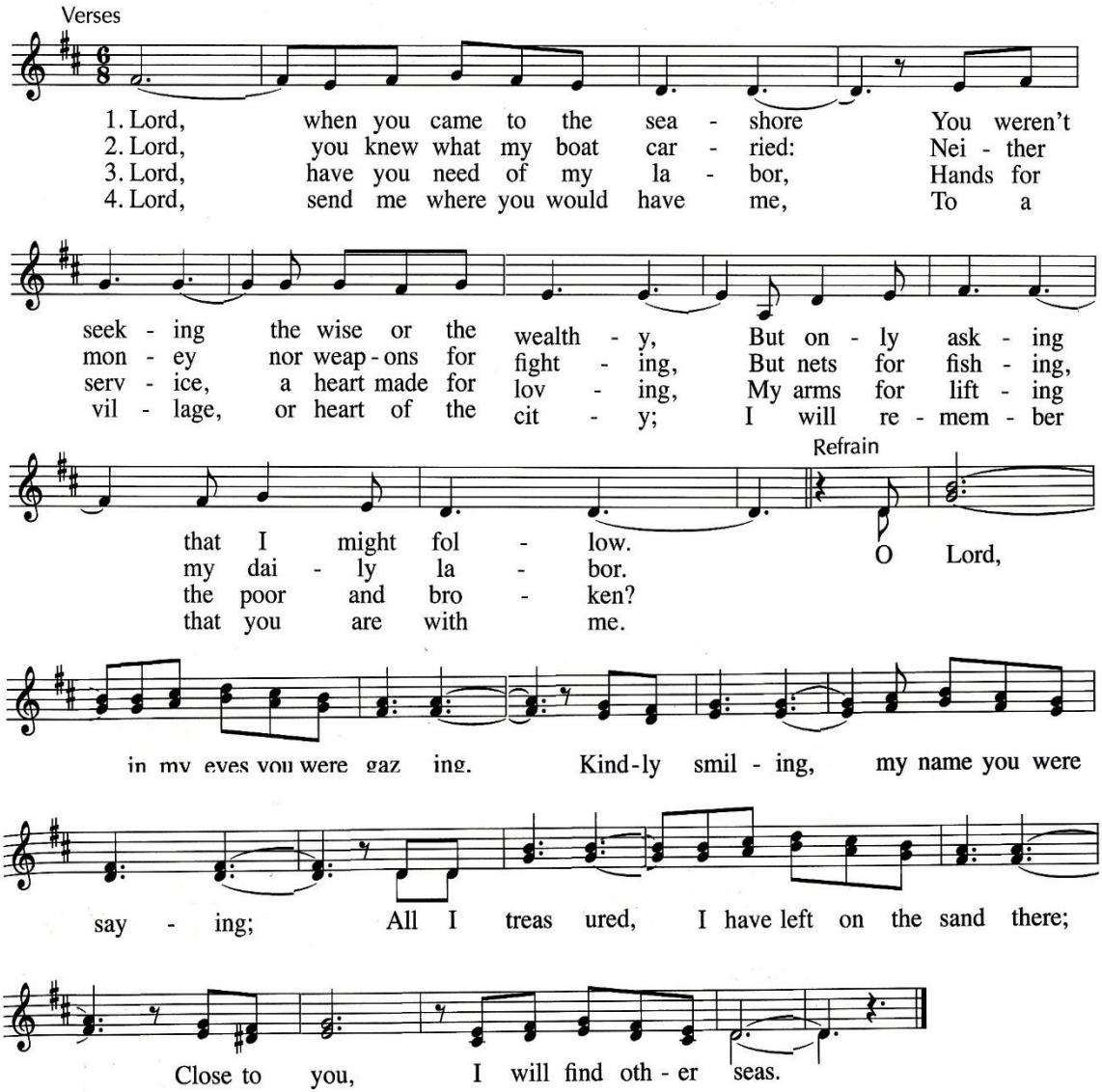
All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

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.

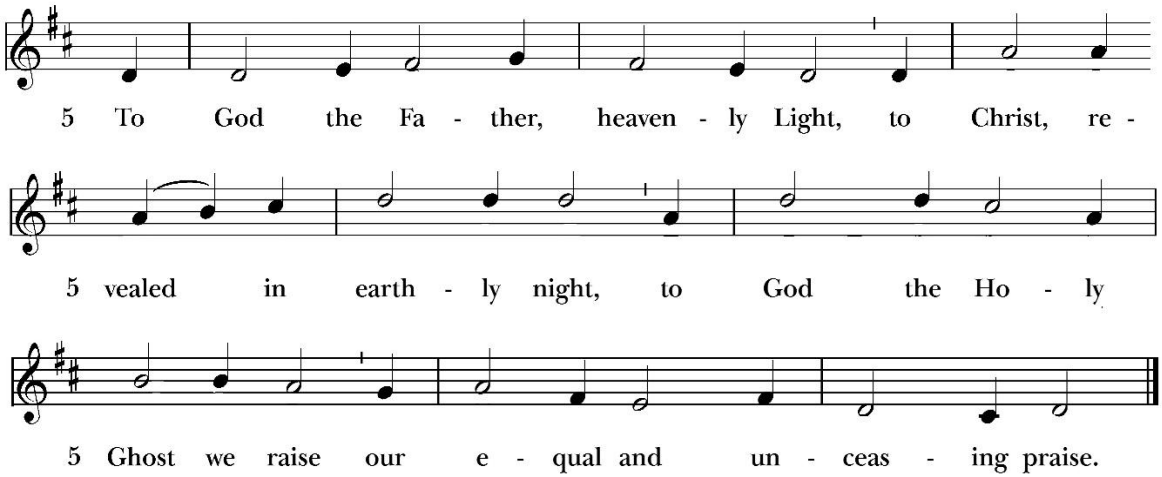
Engagement Opportunities

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

Offertory Hymn "Lord, when you came to the seashore"

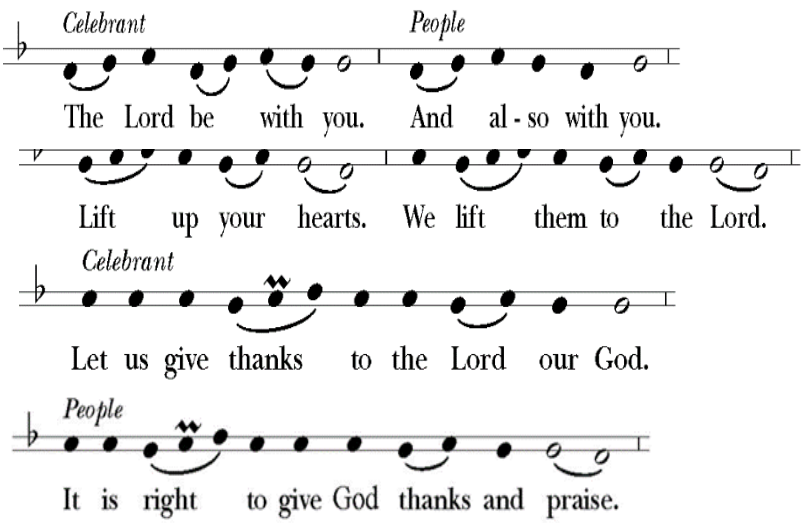


*Presentation of the Gifts



*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP Form B



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father 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:

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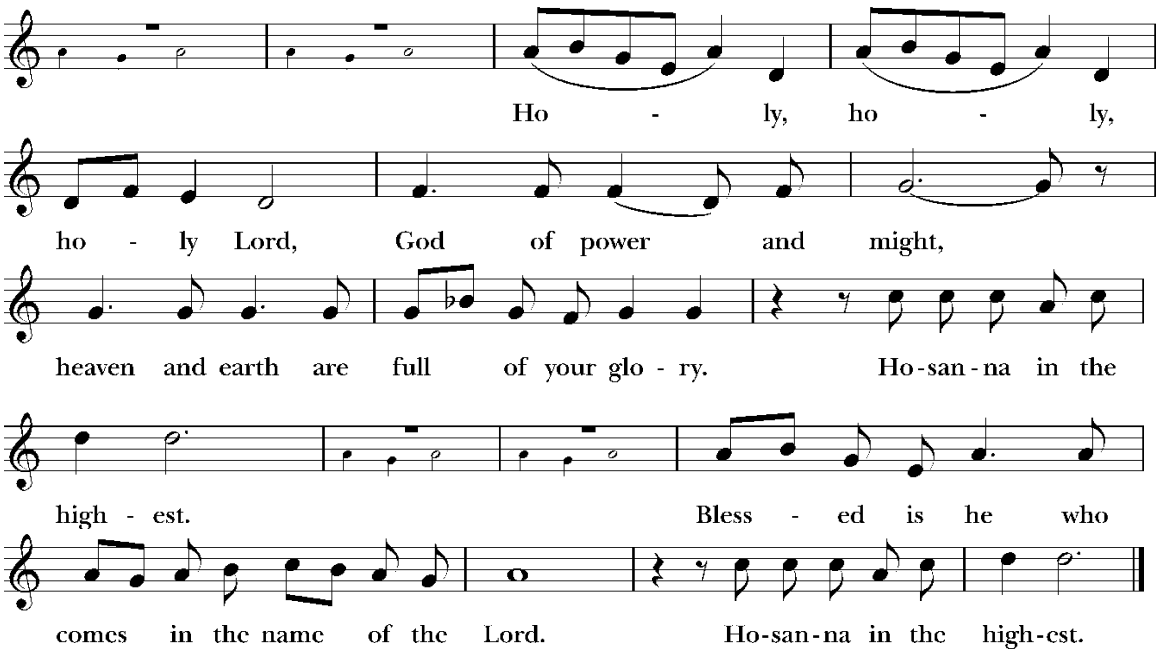


We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

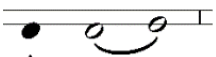
Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Simon and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and Glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



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

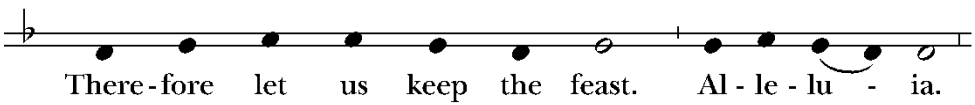
Our Father, who art in heaven, | hallowed be thy Name, | thy kingdom come, | thy will be done, | on earth as it is in heaven.| Give us this day our daily bread. | And forgive us our trespasses, | as we forgive those | who trespass against us. | And lead us not into temptation,| but deliver us from evil. | 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.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:



The Invitation

The gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

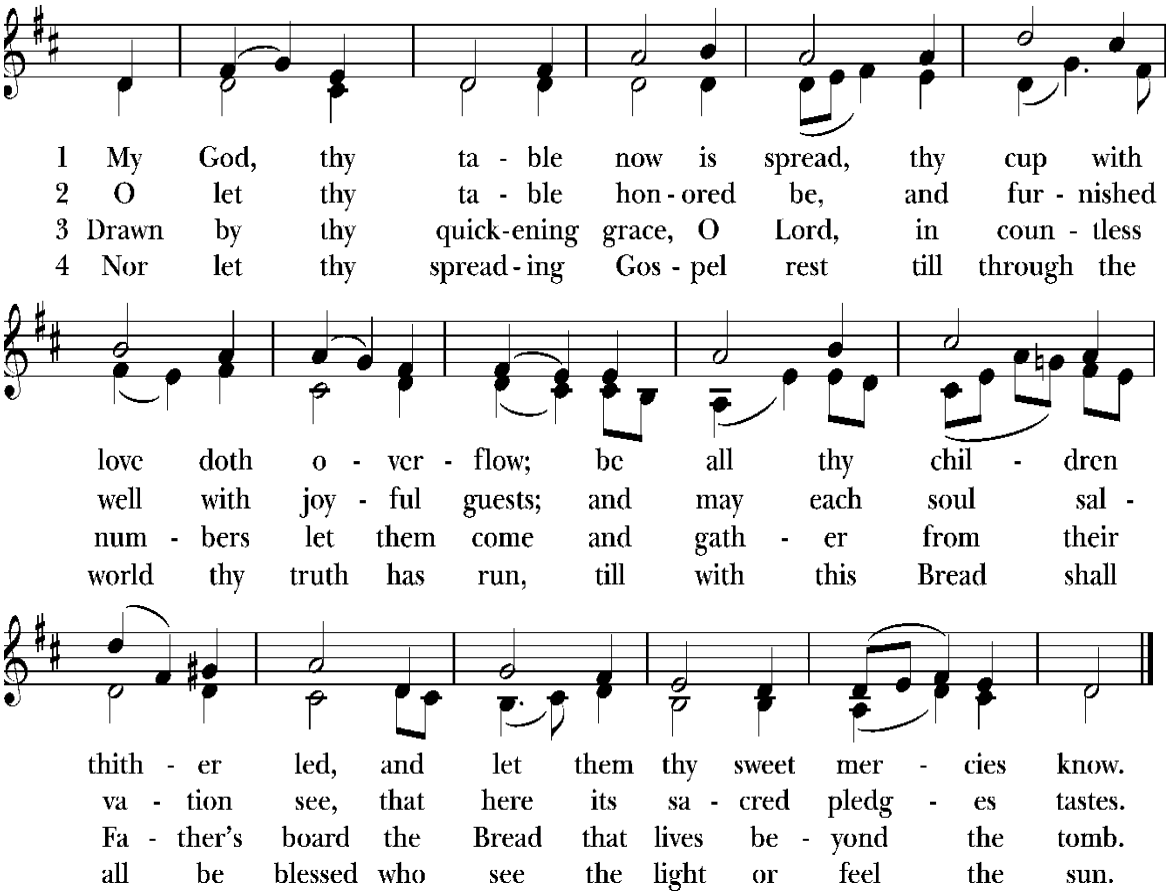
The Presider consumes the host with those online with these words:
The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

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

You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. 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.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.

Communion Hymn 321 "My God, thy table now is spread" *Rockingham*



*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.

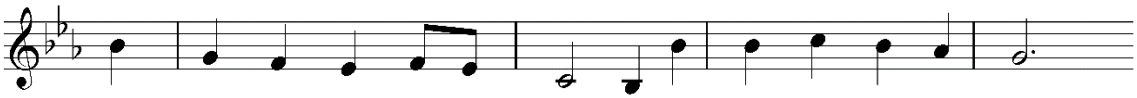
In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

*The Blessing

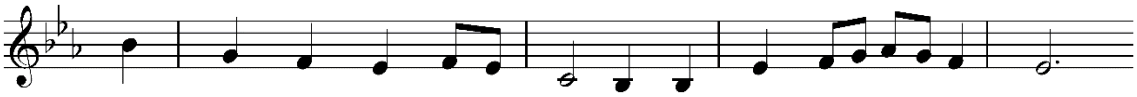
The blessing of God Almighty, the Author, the Only-begotten, and the Gift be with you this day, and remain with you until the day dawns and the shadows flee, and the Morning Star rises in your hearts forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

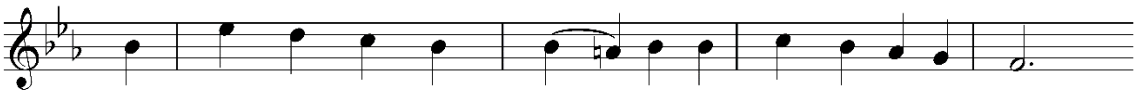
"Jesus calls us o'er the tumult" *Stuttgart*



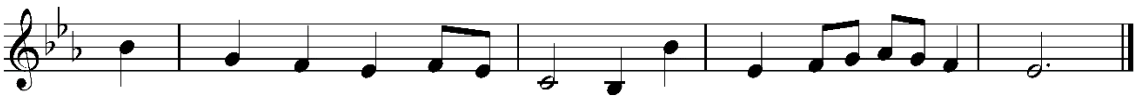
1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end:
2 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the strug - gle if thou art by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE
A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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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*
Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*
Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Preacher	Myk Snider
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Karen Waechter
Readers	Maria Whelan
	Caryl Medsker
Intercessor	Mike Bruce
Ushers	Patricia Grund | Kathy Ponce
Altar Guild	Dave Howley
Porter	Myk Snider
Organist	Martin Pazdioch
Technical Production Team	Alan Medsker