

2.8.2026

10:00 am



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

*Sharing God's love so that all
are served and supported.*



Today's Worship Theme

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

**115 East King Street | Boone, North Carolina | Office 828.264.2206 |
www.graceboone.org | graceboone@graceboone.org**



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*Greeter: Roger Bodo
Ushers: Ron & Gail Schuette
Altar Guild: Gail Hauser
Coffee Host: Janice Koppenhaver*

If you are visiting, please review the Welcome Pew Card in the hymnal holder.

✠ GATHER ✠

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

For up-to-date info, see the "Grace Happenings" Thursday e-newsletter and our website's monthly calendar (also displayed in the Narthex & Fellowship Hall).



PRELUDE "Houston" ("I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light") Rebecca Groom Te Velde

We rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.
Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely, as we kneel. Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

We rise.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

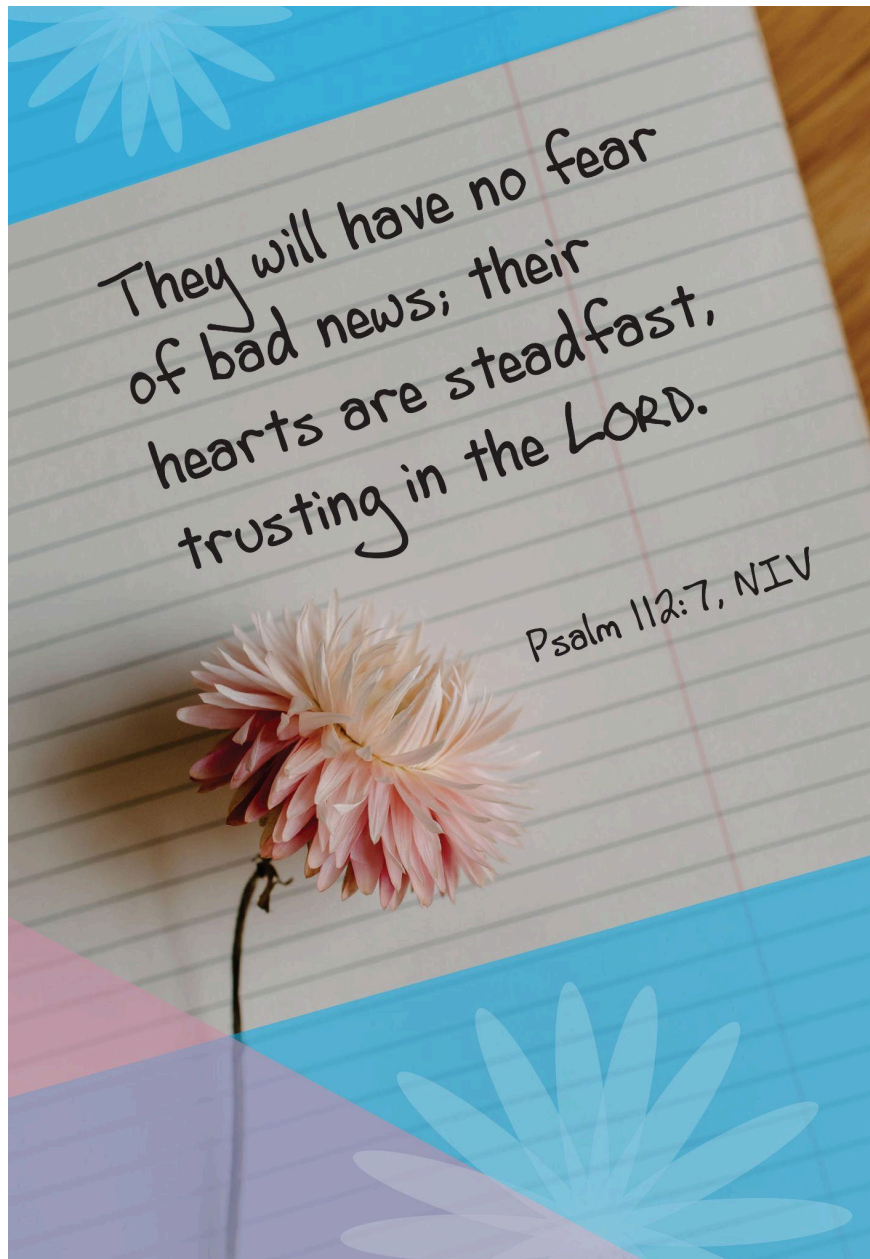
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please share a sign of Christ's peace.

GREETING*Assisting Minister: Dana Holden*

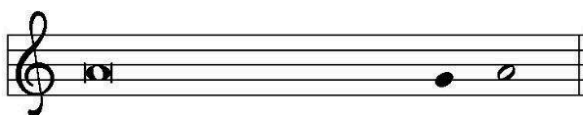
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

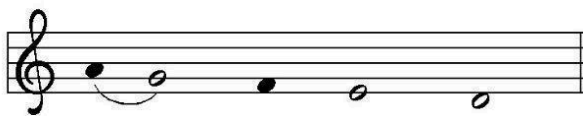
Let us pray. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



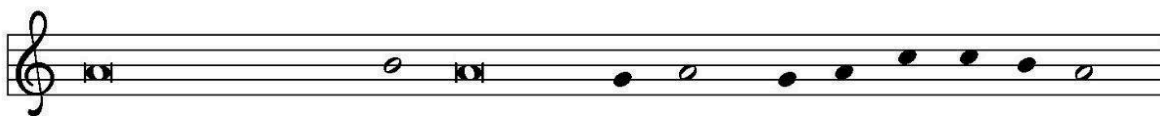
KYRIE



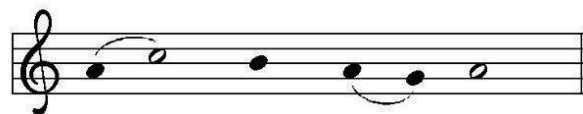
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



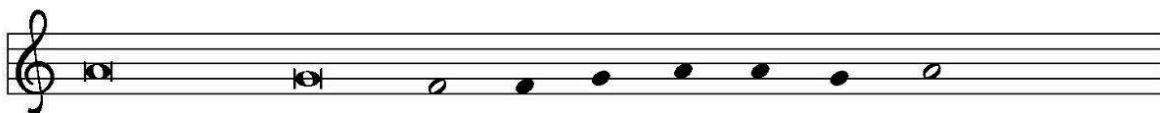
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



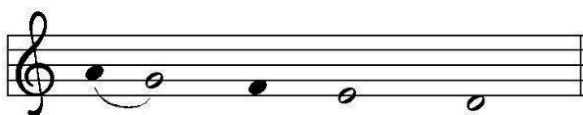
Lord, have mer - cy.



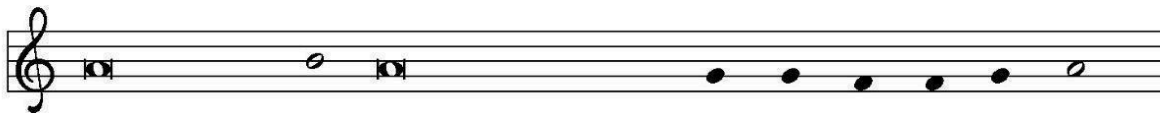
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.

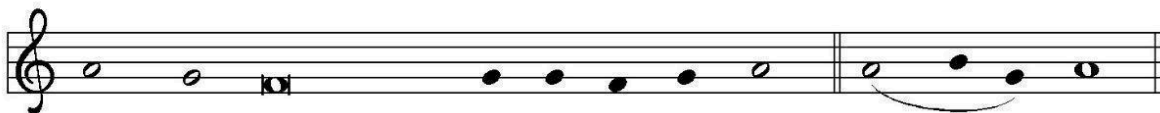


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

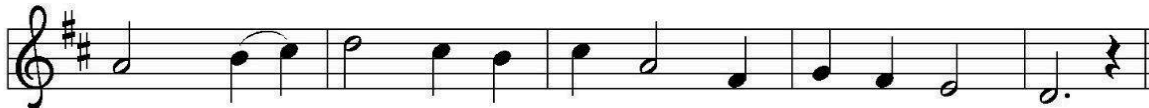
All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Be seated.

✠ **WORD** ✠

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children may come forward for the Children's Message, then go upstairs for Children's Church & Music, and return for communion.

A READING FROM Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Lector: Kelly Rucker

The fast God chooses

¹Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.

³"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." ^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 112:1-9 [10] *Read responsively.*

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

A READING FROM 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

God's wisdom revealed through the Spirit

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

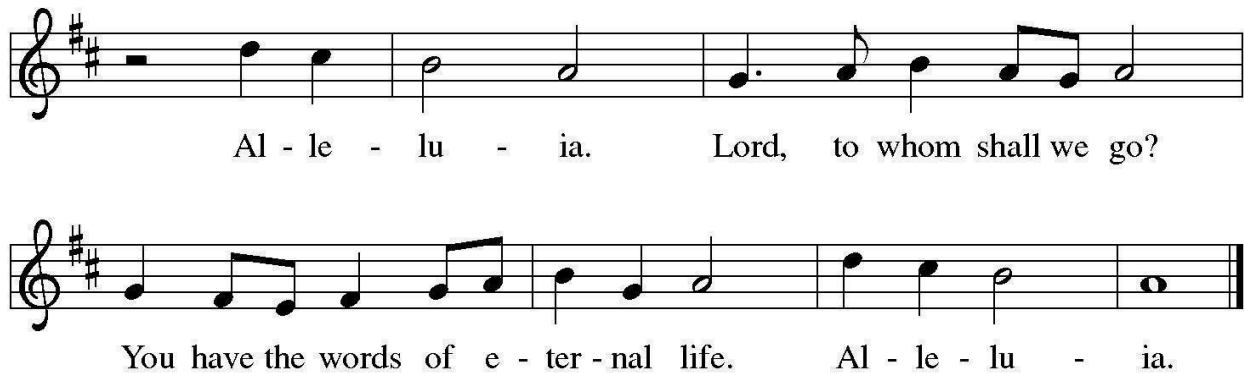
(CONT.)

¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:13-20

The teaching of Christ: salt and light

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

Be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Steve Troisi

We rise.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Christ, Be Our Light"

ELW 715

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. **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.**

We kneel.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be seated.

OFFERING SONG

✠ **MEAL** ✠

"This Little Light of Mine"

John Helgen

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

Thank you for partnering with Grace. Visit www.graceboone.org/donate, or place your gift in the Narthex offering box or mail it to the church office.



We rise.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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 musical notation is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves each have two measures, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

The musical notation is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves each have two measures, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Communion Assistants: Kelly Rucker
and Beth Reavis*

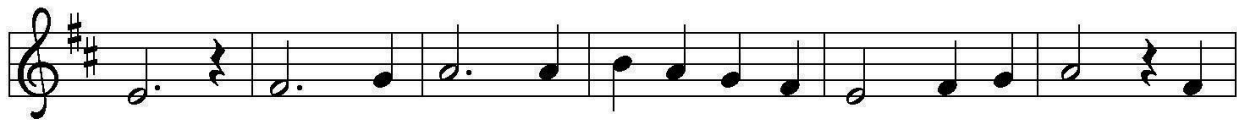
Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see. **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table; all who seek Christ's true presence promised through this bread and wine are welcome and invited to partake in communion. You'll receive bread first (gluten-, nut-, soy- & dairy-free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Please alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you. Today communion is served at the head of the aisle.

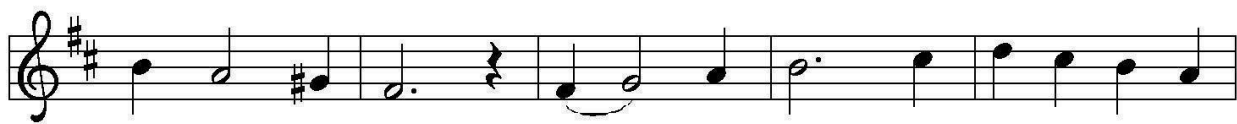
COMMUNION SONG



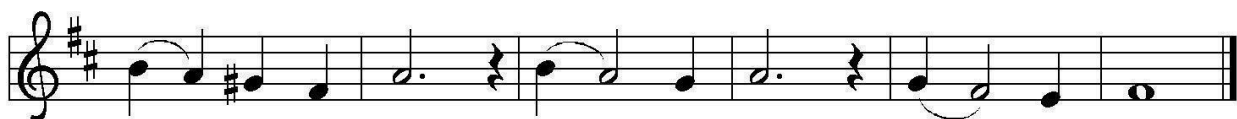
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Eat This Bread"

ELW 472

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

ELW 712

We rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Go, Make Disciples"

ELW 540

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

Wayne L. Wold

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Are given to the glory of God and
in celebration of our 67th wedding
anniversary and for all loving
long-lasting marriages
by Charles & Lynne Mauney.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Is burning to the glory of God
and for all veterans and
our service members
by Tom & Michelle Borkowski.

READINGS FOR February 15

Exodus 24:12-18 | Psalm 2 | 2 Peter 1:16-21 | Matthew 17:1-9

GIVING REPORT

Giving September 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025

December Giving	December Budgeted Giving	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budgeted Giving
\$63,857.12	\$33,333.33	\$143,166.75	\$133,333.32