

VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023 10:30 AM Worship**

Vashon Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023 10:30 AM Worship

PRELUDE:

Marita Ericksen

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Patte Wagner, Lay Leader

Deacon (D): Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Deacon Jan Cherry

D: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

D: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

D: Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.”

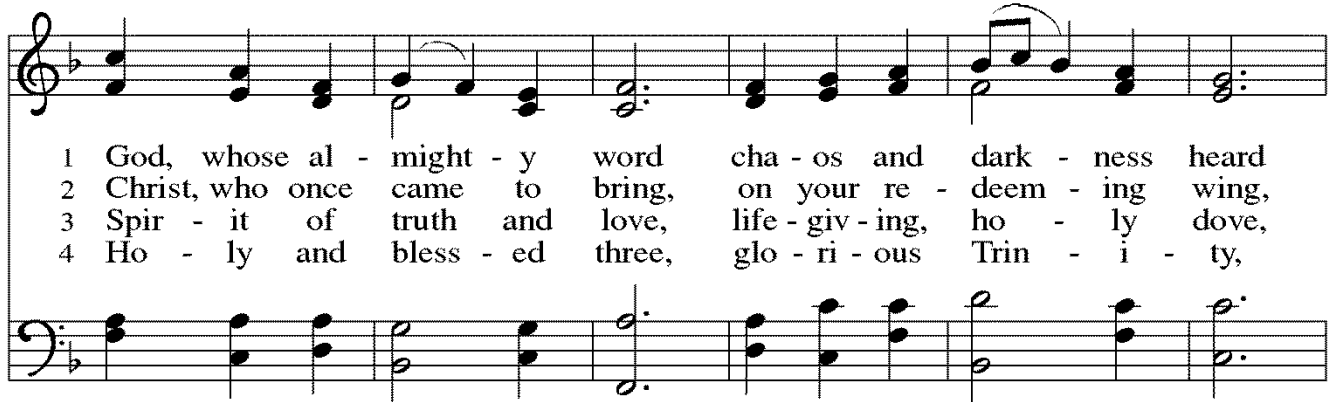
God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

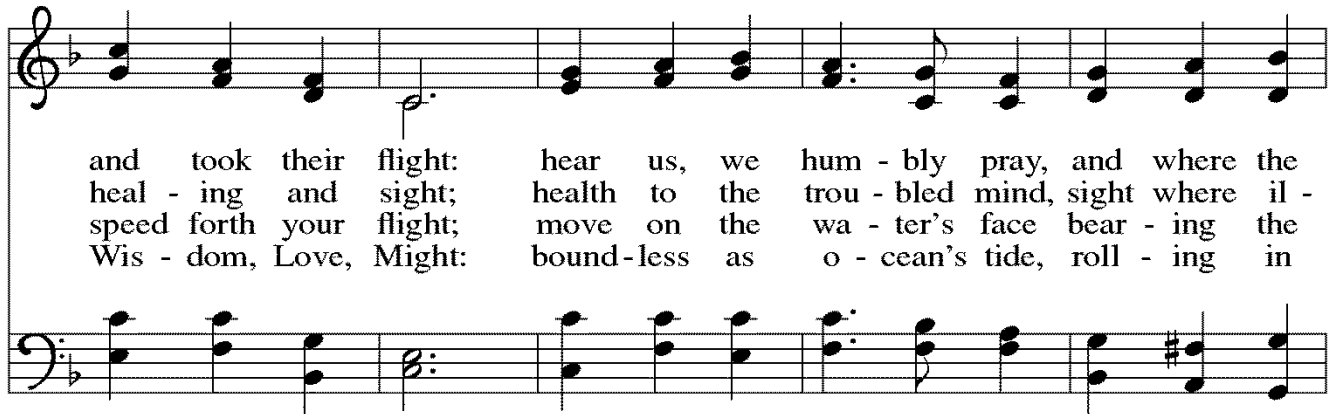
Gathering Hymn (next page):

ELW, #673

God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.
 Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Gardini, 1716-1796

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

KYRIE (next page):

Congregation sings refrains

Dr. Gary Koch, Cantor

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



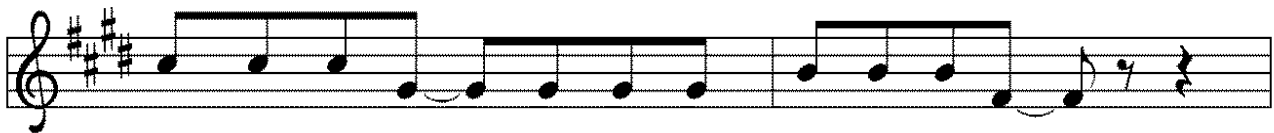
Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
 hun-gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam-i-ly; for
 wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

D: 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.** *Congregation may be seated*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

Marlee Koch, Lector (L)

L: A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 58.

L: Shout 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.

Yet 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 delight to draw near to God.

“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.

Look, you 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.

Is 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?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is 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?

Then 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.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

if 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.

The 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.

Your 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



Hallelujah! Happy are they who¹ fear the LORD

*and have great delight in¹ God's commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty¹ in the land;

***the generation of the upright¹ will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be¹ in their house, *and their righteousness will¹ last forever.

Light shines in the darkness¹ for the upright;

***the righteous are merciful and full¹ of compassion.**

It is good for them to be gener-¹ous in lending *and to manage their af-¹fairs with justice.

For they will nev-¹er be shaken;

***the righteous will be kept in everlast-¹ing remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any¹ evil rumors; *their heart is steadfast, trusting¹ in the LORD.

Their heart is established and¹ will not shrink,

***until they see their desire up-¹on their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands¹ fast forever;

*they will hold up their¹ head with honor.

The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and¹ pine away;

***the desires of the wick-¹ed will perish.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Marlee Koch, Lector

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians, Chapter 2.

L: When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

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 doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 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”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being 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. 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. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

Deacon Jan Cherry

D: The holy gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 5. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

D: [Jesus said:] “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.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 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.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 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. 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. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

D: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation may be seated

MESSAGE:

Deacon Jan Cherry

Congregation stands as able

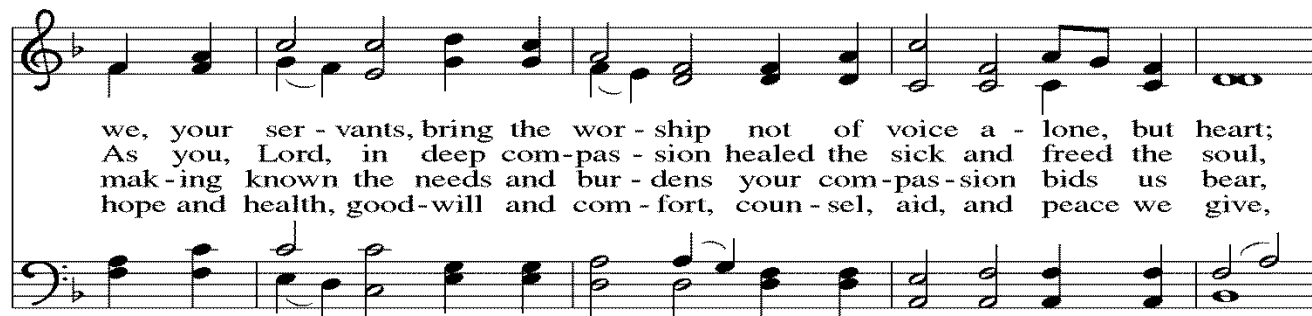
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



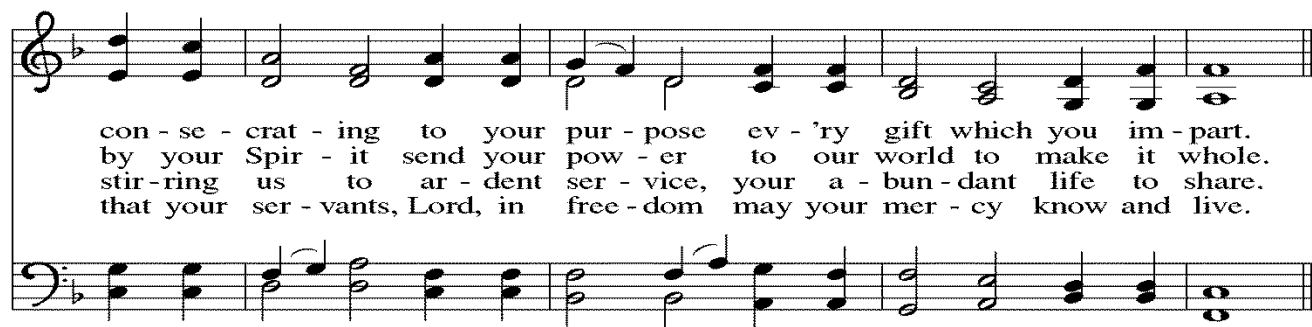
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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THE APOSTLES' CREED:

C: 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. Be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Martha Gebhard, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. We especially remember those for whom we pray either silently or aloud... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

D: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **C: Amen.**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory/Offering (next page):

ELW, #834, vs. 1, 2 & 4

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

OFFERING PRAYER:

D: Let us pray. **Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

Congregation Stands as able

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

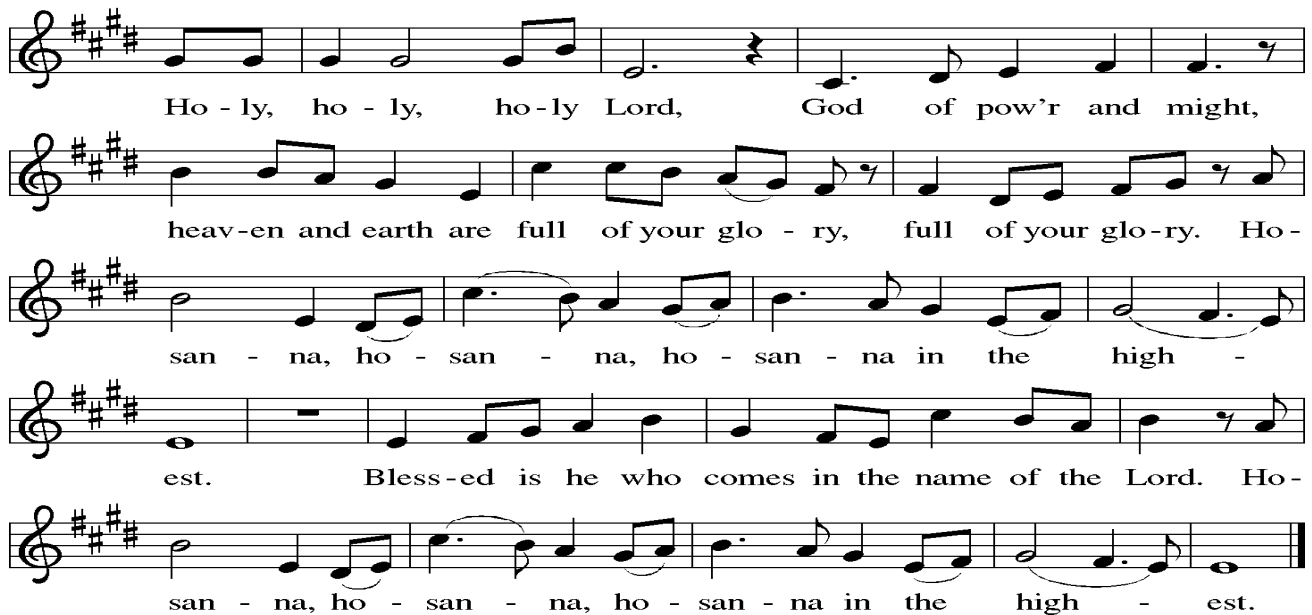
D: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

D: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

D: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY :



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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/COMMUNION:

D: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

D: Come and taste the joy of God!

Congregation sits

Communion Hymn (next page):

ELW, #493

Taste and See

Refrain - All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me.

Refrain

2 Glo-ri - fy the Lord with me. To - geth - er let us

all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an - s - w - e - r - e - d

me; from all my trou- bles I was set free.

Refrain

3 Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo - ple. You'll want for

noth - ing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is

good; in God we need put all our trust.

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34
 Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.
 Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

D: Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

BLESSING:

D: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

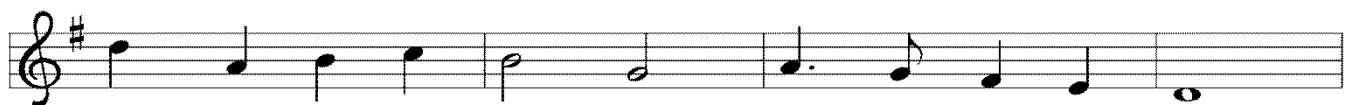
Sending Song:

ELW, #537


On Our Way Rejoicing



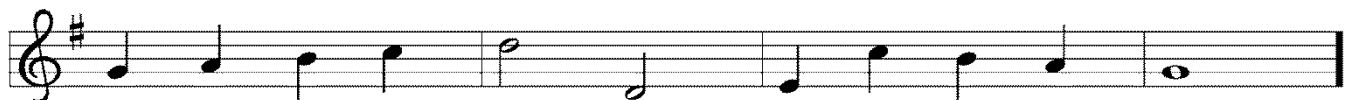
1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;




Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Marita Ericksen

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Worship Assistants Today:

Guest Pastor – Deacon Jan Cherry
Assisting Minister – Martha Gebhard
Lector – Marlee Koch
Communion Assistant – Roger Gebhard
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Marita Ericksen
Cantor – Dr. Gary Koch
Communion Set Up – Judy Carr
Flowers – Gary & Marlee Koch

Worship Assistants next week (2/12/23):

Guest Pastor – Pastor Chris Ode
Assisting Minister – TBA
Lectors – TBA
Communion Assistants – TBA
Usher – Jim Dam
Musician – Dinah Helgeson
Cantor – Roger Gebhard
Communion Set Up – TBA
Flowers – Gary & Marlee Koch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Deacon Jan Cherry, for leading us in worship today!

VLC annual Congregational Meeting has been postponed to Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023, right after the worship service. Hard copies of the most recent VLC Constitution/Bylaws and the minutes from the last congregational meeting are available on the information table in the fellowship hall.

Sunday Bible study class begin again today, Feb. 5., 9:15 – 10:00 AM. Roger Gebhard will leads the class today & Sunday, Feb. 12. Pastor Thomas M. Aitken will lead the class Sunday, Feb. 19 & Feb. 26. Coffee and refreshments included. All are welcome!

AARP Free Tax Preparation – Thursdays, February 9 – April 7, 2023. Open between 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. By appointment: vashonaarp@gmail.com.

Giving Your Offering – If you would like to continue giving an offering to VLC, our mailing address is: Vashon Lutheran Church, P. O. Box 2930, Vashon, WA 98070.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-604-3253. Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY

1st
9:15 – 10:00 AM, beginning Feb. 5, 2023
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Feb. 19, 2023, 11:30 AM

Food Bank Sunday
Bible Study Class
Worship and Coffee Hour
AA Group
VLC Annual Congregational Meeting

MONDAY

10:00 AM
Feb. 6, 6:00 PM

Intercessory Prayer Group
Mission Planning Committee ZOOM Mtg.

TUESDAY

2nd, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

3rd, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group
Vashon Quilting Group

WEDNESDAY

1st, 9:00 AM – noon

Feb. 15, 7:00 PM

Lutheran Quilters Group
Council ZOOM Meeting

THURSDAY

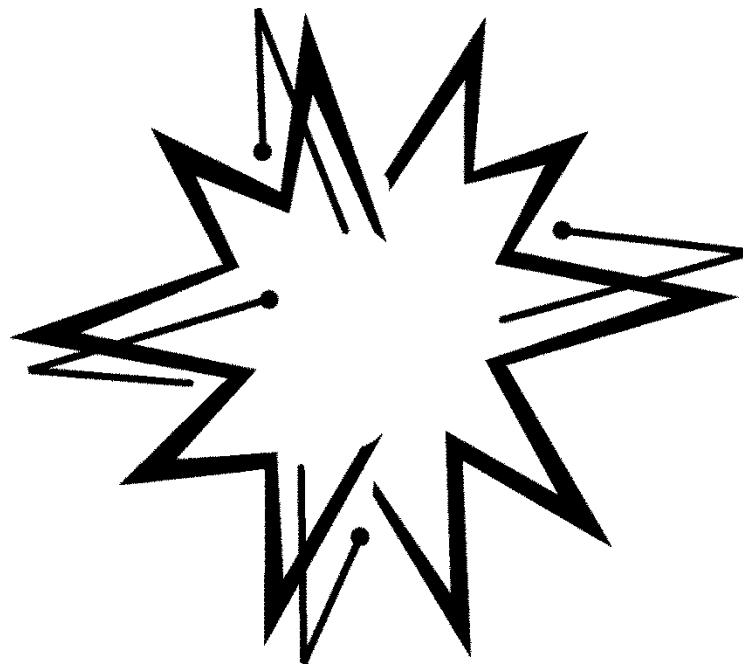
Feb. 9 – Apr. 7, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

AARP Free Tax Prep, by appointment

FRIDAY

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men



Vashon Lutheran Church

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2930
Vashon WA 98070**

Street Address: 18623 Vashon Hwy. SW

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 11 AM–2 PM

Phone: 206-463-2655

email: vlc98070@centurytel.net

Hymns for Feb. 5, 2023

ELW, 673

God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW, 712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW, 834, v, 1,2 & 4

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW, 493

Taste and See

ELW, 537

On Our Way, Rejoicing

