

# **Zion Lutheran Church**

***Creating Community Through  
God's Love and Guidance***



**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Confirmation Sunday**

**May 18, 2025**

## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

(The assembly speaks the bold print)

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### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #669**

Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come. We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**Amen**

### **GREETING**

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**

**O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHOIR ANTHEM**

**"Light of Mine"**

## **FIRST READING**

**Acts 11:1-18**

A reading from Acts.

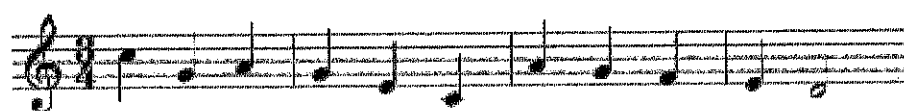
<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.'

<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

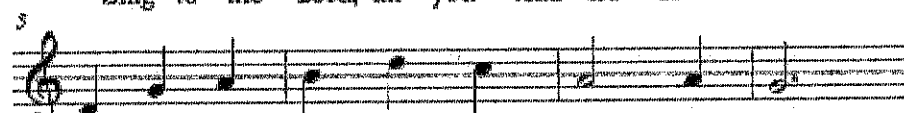
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

# PSALM 148

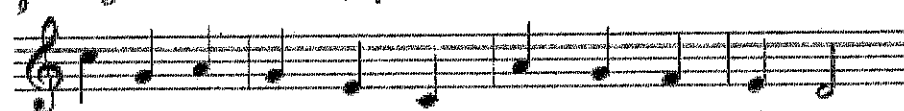
"Sing to the Lord, All You Angels"



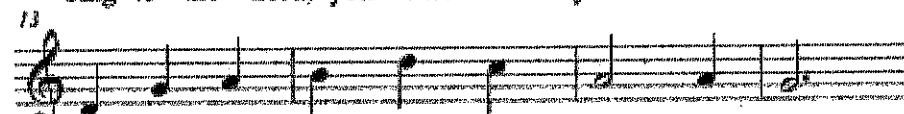
Sing to the Lord, all you an - gels a - dor - ing.  
Sing to the Lord, ev - 'ry fish in the o - cean.  
Sing to the Lord, all you lead - ers of na - tions.



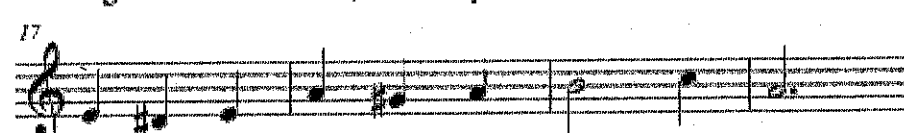
Sing to the Lord, ev - 'ry morn - ing star.  
Sing to the Lord, ev - 'ry bird that flies.  
Sing to the Lord, you that rule the earth.



Sing to the Lord, let your light keep a - glow - ing,  
Sing to the Lord, with your beau - ti - ful mo - tion.  
Sing to the Lord, you who know your sal - va - ion.



shin - ing on trav - 'lers from near and far.  
Sing to the Lord, let the mu - sic rise.  
Sing to the Lord, let your voice be heard.



Glo - ry to God, the Cre - a - tor blest.



Glo - ry to God, Lord of righ - teous - ness.

## SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 5

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL READING

John 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him."

<sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

## **SERMON**

Pastor Jake

## **HYMN OF THE DAY #726**

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

pages 234-236

(Alexa Rusch shares her bible verse, Isaiah 40:8, during this section immediately before the Profession of Faith)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,  
you have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.  
Come among us again,  
breathe your life into us,  
and enliven us with this meal,  
that we may live as your risen body in the world.  
**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

## HOLY HOLY HOLY

## Setting 5

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

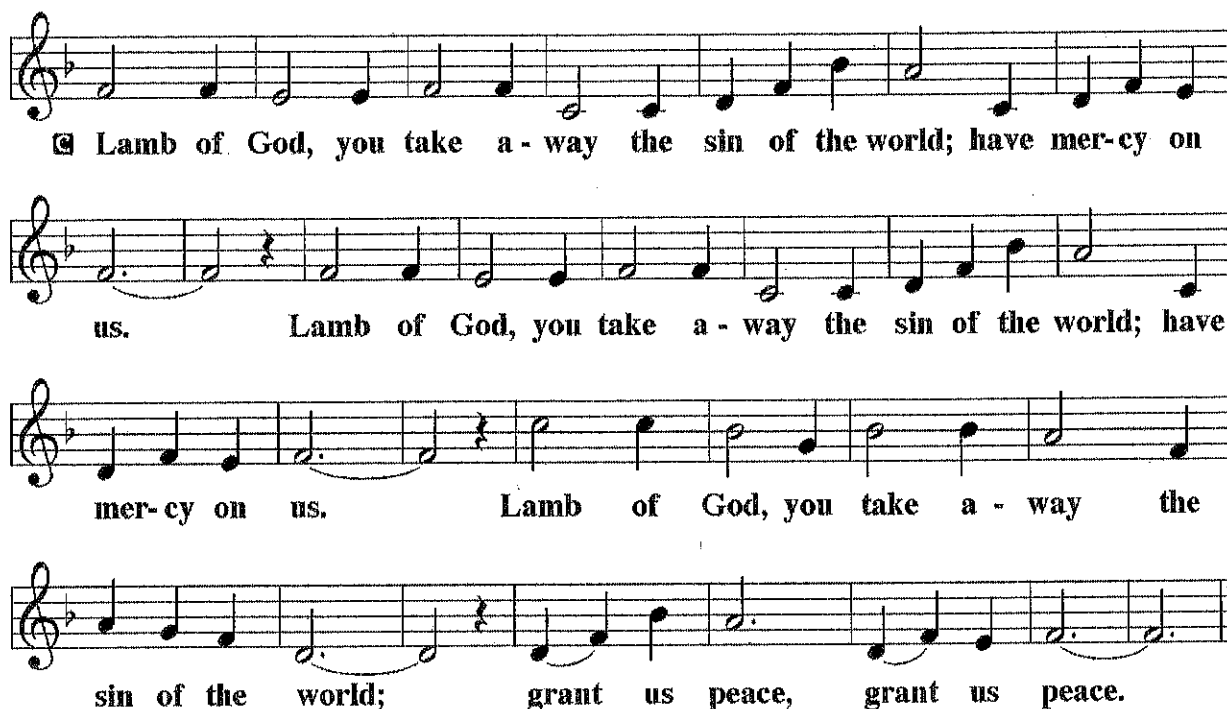
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## LAMB OF GOD

## Setting 5



☐ 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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

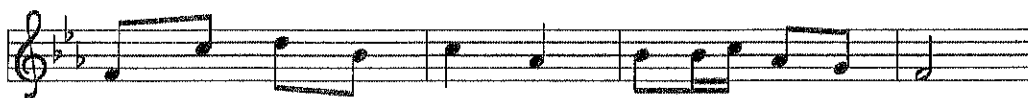
## COMMUNION

## COMMUNION HYMN

"Build a Longer Table"



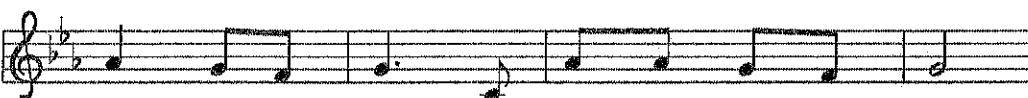
## Build a Longer Table



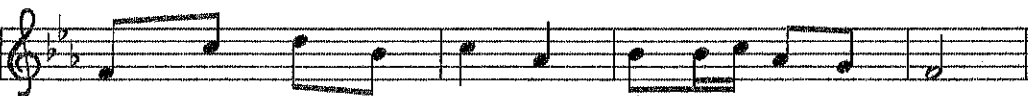
1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVLET, French carol

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## TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,  
 in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
 Send us now to tell of your wonders,  
 sing of your glory,  
 and proclaim your risen life  
 to a wounded and weary world.  
**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN #722** "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate"

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —  
thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**Pastor:** Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

**Assisting Minister:** Grace Van Eyck

**Readers:** Alexa Rusch, Lisa Rusch

**Greeters:** Diana Staedt, Elmer Luedtke

**Acolyte:** Lily Gruselle

**Office Coordinator:** Kimberly Gordon [kimberly@zionappleton.org](mailto:kimberly@zionappleton.org)

**Maintenance Engineer:** Elliot Pegel

**Parish Nurse:** Kandie Wilz [kw4421333@gmail.com](mailto:kw4421333@gmail.com) (920) 442-1333

**Worship & Music Assistant:** Heather Watney

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

**Choir Director:** Cheryl Meyer

**Handbells:** Paula Staedt

**Song Leaders:** Cheryl Meyer, Wendy Sachs

**Hospitality Coordinator:** Lynn Walter [lynn@zionappleton.org](mailto:lynn@zionappleton.org)

**Outreach Coordinator:** Brianne Connelly [bconnelly26@gmail.com](mailto:bconnelly26@gmail.com)

**Zion Lutheran 920-739-3104**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30--2:00 pm**

[zion@zionappleton.org](mailto:zion@zionappleton.org) • [www.zionappleton.org](http://www.zionappleton.org)

For Pastoral emergencies contact Vicar Jake at 920-570-1514.

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

**Attendance:**

Last Week: 100

Last Year: 94

**Announcements**

Today is confirmation for Alexa Rusch. Please keep her & her parents in your prayers as she affirms her baptism. Please join us in the fellowship hall after the service to celebrate the occasion.

Today marks the end of Youth Formation classes until September. A huge thank you goes to all of the volunteers who have served in various roles throughout the year, the families who have supported by bringing their child to Sunday School and Confirmation, and of course the children who come each week with the curiosity of learning. You are all greatly appreciated.

If you have a child in your life that will be 3 by September 1st, please let us know so that they can join in next year's fun.

Sunday School goes from age 3 through 5th grade and Confirmation is from 6th-8th grade.

Lynn has gift cards for sale today. They are \$25 Festival, \$25 Kwik Trip, \$25 Menards, \$25 Pick N Save, \$25 Piggly Wiggly, \$10 Target & \$25 Walgreens.

Here are some volunteer opportunities if you are interested. Greeter, Usher, Bell Ringer, fellowship hour, Communion Setup and Cleanup. We also need volunteers to help with the church picnic which will be held on June 29. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please see Lynn Walter and she will refer you to the person in charge of that job.

We are looking for volunteers to pick up food for our fellowship hour. You will be reimbursed for what you purchase or for the ingredients if you make something. Please see Lynn Walter, Colleen Malchow or Karen Luedtke if you can help.

As co-winner of the LU Concerto competition, our organist, William Surtees, will play movement 1 of Chopin's Concerto No. 1 with the LU Symphony on Friday, June 6 at 7:30 pm in the Lawrence Chapel. The event is free of charge and open to all.

We will be having the church picnic on Sunday, June 29th at Telulah Park. More details will be coming soon.

**Scholarship Information:** Are you a Senior in High School and an active member of Zion? Get a Scholarship application from the Church Office window ledge. The awards are based on accomplishments, grade point, need, and an essay on the impact of Jesus Christ and the Christian faith in the life of the applicant. Only Zion members are eligible. ALL PARTS of the application (including reference support letters) must be IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 11:00AM ON SUNDAY, June 1, 2025. Call the church with questions at 920-739-3104.

Linwood Community is holding an educational session on Monday, May 19th at 11 AM as Yon Abel, our Wellness Coordinator presents information on the Mediterranean Diet. This diet is highly recommended because of its overall health benefits. It has been shown to reduce inflammation, lower blood pressure, improve cholesterol levels, help regulate blood sugar, provide a high intake of antioxidants, help with weight management and provide the nutrients essential for brain health along with it being associated with a longer lifespan.

Congregants and families of Zion are welcome to attend Appleton Bilingual School's end of the year carnival on **Friday, May 30th from 3:30-5:30pm**. It is being held at Zion in the parking lot. At 5pm, Sue Bunkert will address the ABS community and anyone else from Zion can say a few words if they would like to. ABS would also like to give a parting message to Zion at this time so please plan to attend if you can.

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**Sunday, May 18**

Acts 11:1-18; Ps 148

Rev 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

**Worship Service 9:00 am**

followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School

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**Fifth Sunday of Easter & Confirmation Sunday**

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Grace Van Eyck

Reader: Confirmation student & parent

Acolyte: Lily Gruselle

Musician: William Surtees

Opens: Greg Pettigrew

Closes: Jodi Hoesli

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**Monday, May 19**

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Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

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**Sunday, May 25**

Acts 16:9-15; Ps 67

Rev 21:10, 22-22:5; John 5:1-9

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

**Worship Service 9:00 am**

followed by Coffee Hour

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**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs

Reader: Jodi Hoesli

Musician: Heather Watney

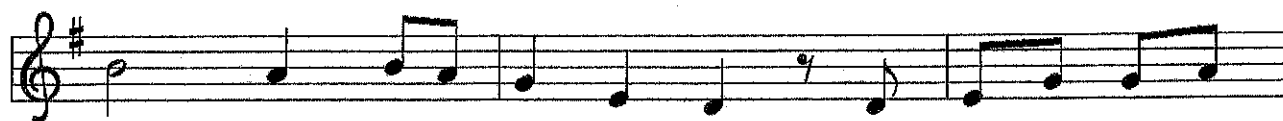
Opens: Gwen Schwandt

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

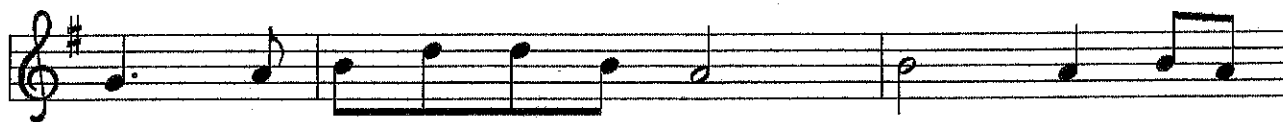
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# Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



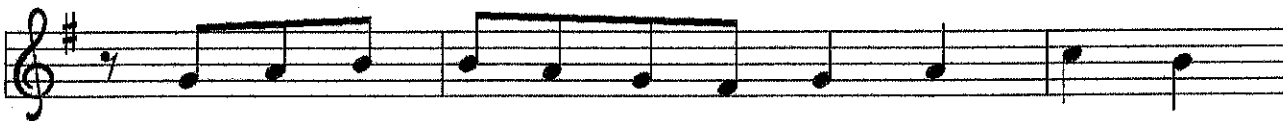
see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



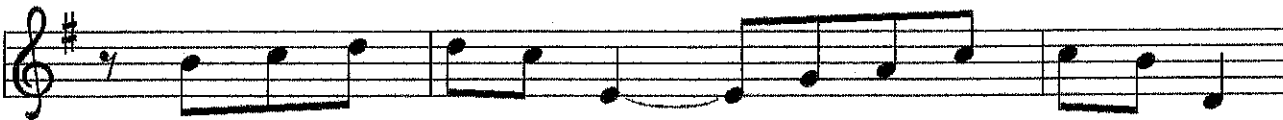
wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



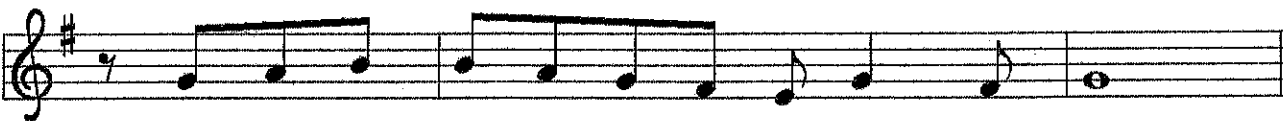
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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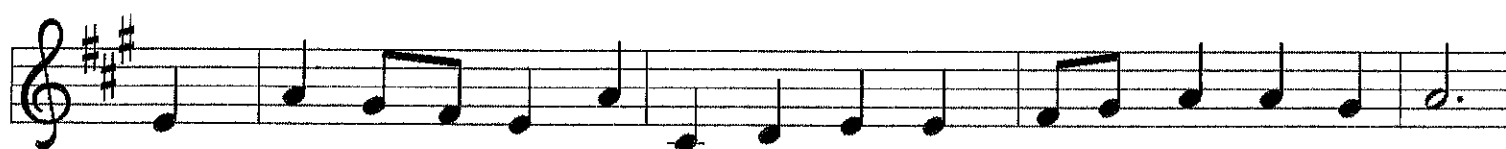
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# O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



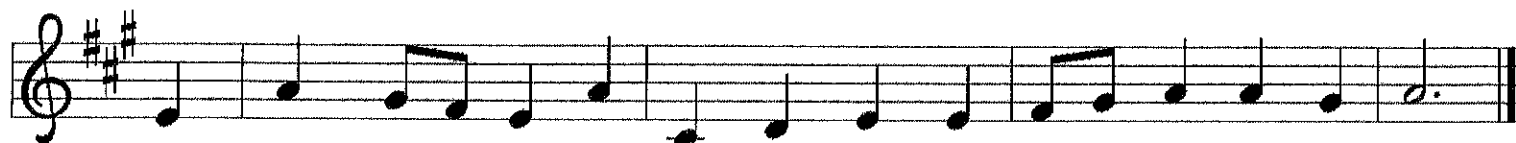
- 1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
- 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
- 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
- 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.  
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.  
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.  
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme  
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,  
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield  
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.  
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.  
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.  
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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