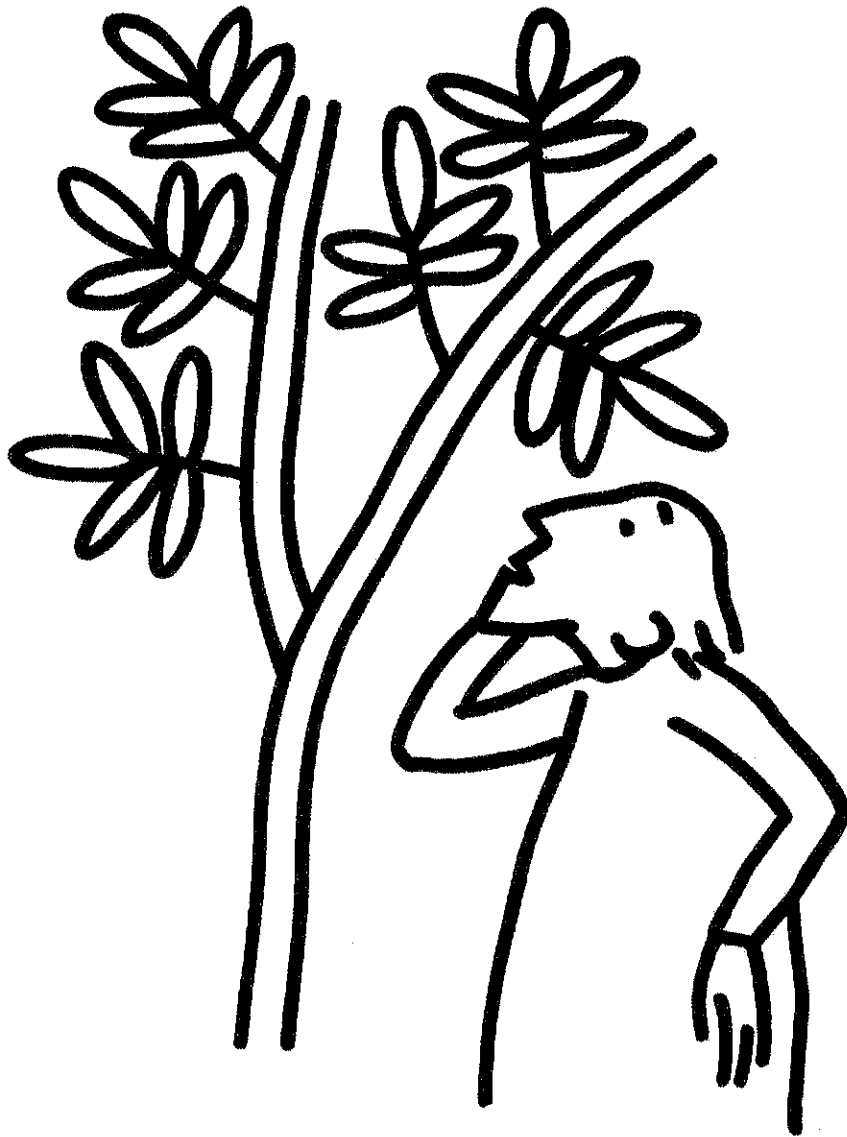


Zion Lutheran

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



Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

(The assembly speaks the bold print)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN#521 **"O Day of Rest and Gladness"**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's
abiding love.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house 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

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. the birds in two.

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

PSALM 63: 1-7

sung to the melody from
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

1 O God, You are my God, and I
will seek You earnestly.
My soul does thirst, my body longs;
With You I want to be.

I'm in a dry and weary land,
Where water can't be found;

2 But I have seen You in Your house
with glory all around.

3 Your love is better far than life;
Your name I'll glorify.

4 I'll praise You long as I may live,
And lift my hands on high.

5 My soul will be well satisfied
as with the best of food;
My mouth will sing, my lips will praise,
With praise that You are due.

6 Upon my bed, I think of You,
Through watches of the night;

7 In shadow of Your wings, I sing,
For You're my help and light.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food,

⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

LENTEN ACCLAMATION

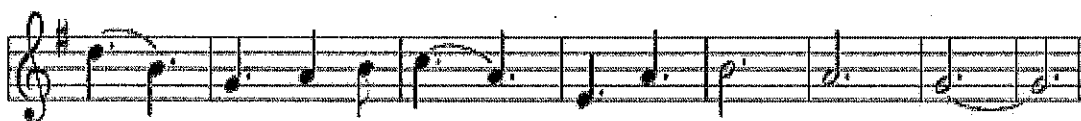
Setting 5



Ⓢ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your



God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to



an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:1-9

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

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

SERMON

Pastor Jan LaVake

HYMN OF THE DAY#328

“Restore in Us, O God”

APOSTLES’ CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

CHOIR

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

Wendy Sachs, oboe

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

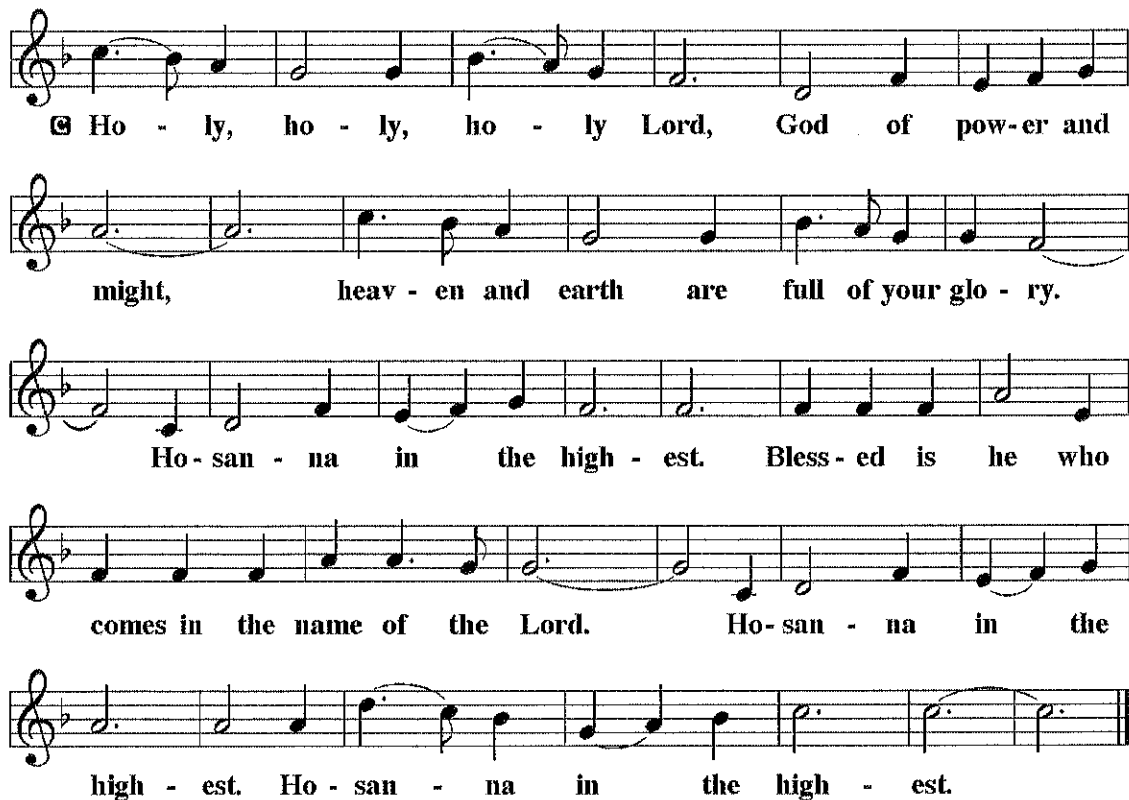
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

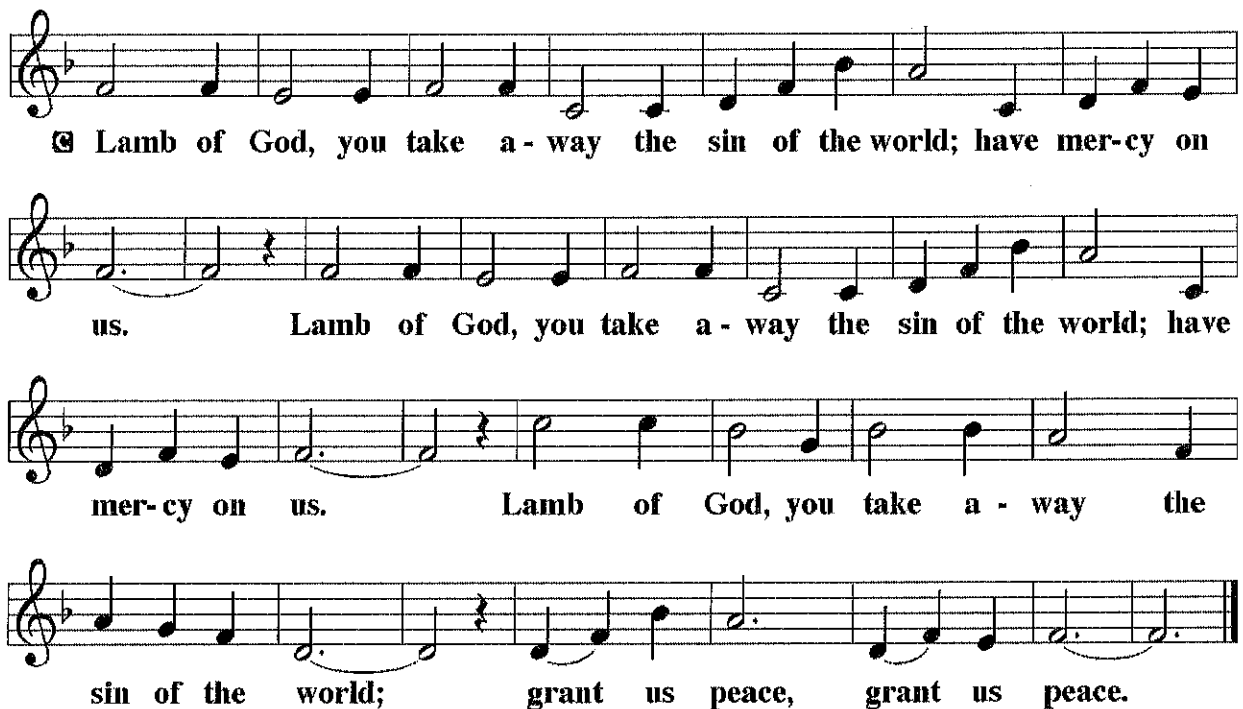
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN#522

"As We Gather at Your Table"

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

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN#543 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —
 thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Pastor: Pastor Jan LaVake

Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt

Reader: Paula Staedt

Acolyte: Charlee Weiland

Greeters: Carol Gipp, John & Marge Draheim

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Church Administrator: Karen Farlow karen@zionappleton.org

Maintenance Engineer: Elliot Pegel

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

Worship & Music Assistant: Heather Watney
heatherwatney@gmail.com

Choir Director: Cheryl Meyer

Handbells: Paula Staedt

Song Leaders: Cheryl Meyer, Wendy Sachs

Hospitality Coordinator: Lynn Walter lynn@zionappleton.org

Outreach Coordinator: Brianne Connelly bconnelly26@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran 920-739-3104

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

zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org

For Pastoral emergencies contact the office.

Welcome!

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

Attendance:

Last Week: 87

Last Year: 97

Announcements!

Lenten Study Booklets are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to take one home with you.

There will not be a Lenten Soup Supper this Wednesday but there will be a service at 6:30pm. Lenten Soup Suppers will resume on April 2 & April 9. They will be from 5:00pm-6:15pm with the service to follow at 6:30pm. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for help with setup, cleanup & desserts.

On Sunday, April 13th we will be gathering after church for our third annual Palm Sunday Brunch. All are invited for this family event. This event will be a potluck and so we ask that if you are able to, please sign up to bring something to pass. Even if you aren't able to bring something, please let us know that you are coming by either signing up in the Narthex or by registering online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DABA623A6FBC61-55663217-palm> . We hope to see you there!

Order forms are in the back of the sanctuary & in the narthex for Easter Flowers. The cost is \$15. You can put the money & form in the offering, you can bring it to the office or you can send it to the office. The deadline will be April 13th.

There will be a Maundy Thursday & Good Friday service at Zion at 6:30pm. There is an Ecumenical service on Good Friday at noon at the Unitarian Fellowship in Appleton (2600 Philip Lane). Vicar Jake will be participating.

On our website, zion@appleton.org, we have links to different articles about churches like ELCA Global Mission, Seeds of the parish & Concordia. We also have the messenger past & present & the bulletin past & present. Please take a look at all the information we have about Zion.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church Players, 473 7th St. Menasha will be presenting Lerner & Loewe's Brigadoon on March 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30. There is a poster in the narthex with the times. It is a freewill offering. Come & enjoy.

Linwood Community: A Ministry of Fox Valley Lutheran Homes
March 2025 Service: Join them in the Linwood Commons for a worship service during Lent. Wednesday, March 26, 1:00 PM, Pastor Amy Engebose leading us in worship. (Lunch served at 12:00. Please RSVP to lynnann.fvlhomes@gmail.com if you would like to join us for food and fellowship before worship.)

Are You a Safe Driver?-Thursday, April 10th, Linwood Community will be hosting Refresh Your Driving Skills from 10:00 -2:45. This is also known as the AARP Smart Driver Course and is designed to refresh your driving skills. Advanced registration is required. The cost will be \$10 per person. You can register by calling Yon Abel, Wellness Coordinator, at 920-850-3623 or by emailing our resource advocate Jean George at Resource.fvlhomes@gmail.com. Space is limited. Lunch will be provided. Some insurance companies give a discount to people who have successfully completed this course.

The Fox Valley Lions Medical Equipment Locker provides access to medical equipment without charge to the residents of the Fox Valley communities. They are always in need of new or used medical equipment. If you have any unused or unwanted medical equipment that is in good condition, please consider donating it to them. Hearing aid batteries can be donated at the locker, and people can come in when the locker is open and request free hearing aid batteries. Currently, there are 13,312 and some 675 batteries. They have a volunteer that is willing to drop off batteries at the church. For more information, please visit their website: <https://sites.google.com/view/fvlml/home>

Sunday, March 23

Isa 55:1-9; Ps 63:1-8

1 Cor 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

3rd Sunday of Lent

Pastor Jan LaVake

Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt

Reader: Paula Staedt

Acolyte: Charlee Weiland

Musician: Jim Schley

Opens and Closes: Jim Schley

Wednesday, March 26**Lenten Service**

Leaders: Pastor Mike Dismer and Deb Reis

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Musician: Pam Keane

Worship Service 6:30 pm

Opens: Jim Schley

Closes: Greg Pettigrew

Sunday, March 30

Josh 5:9-12; Ps 32

2 Cor 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

4th Sunday of Lent

Pastor Karen Jewell

Assisting Minister: Tom Meltz

Reader: Jon Meyer

Acolyte: Alexa Rusch

Musician: Jim Schley

Opens: Greg Pettigrew

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

O Day of Rest and Gladness



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

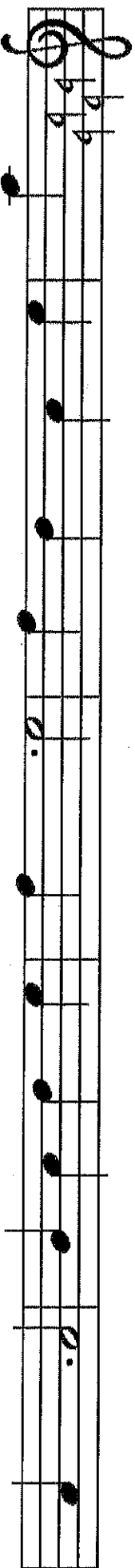


sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

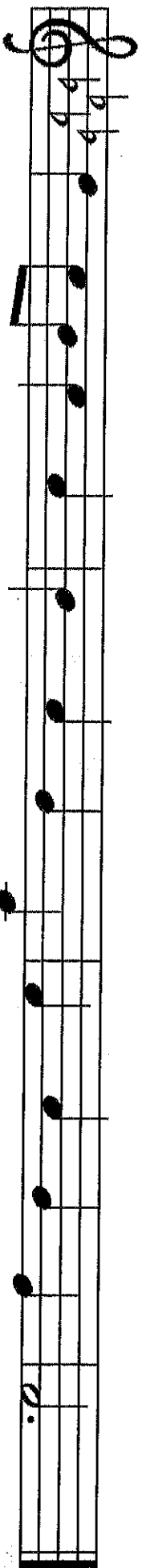
Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt.

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

Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

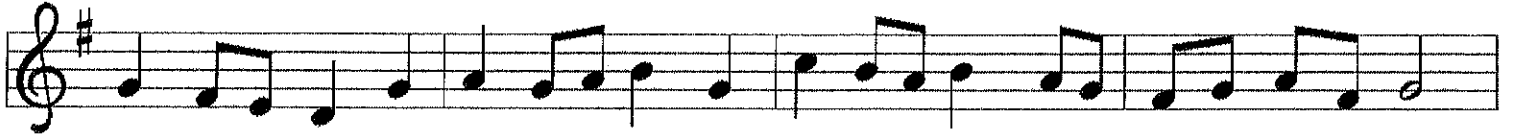
Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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As We Gather at Your Table



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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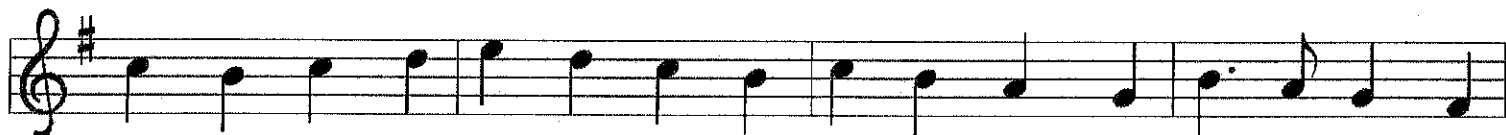
Go, My Children, with My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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