

First Sunday in Lent



the need

to embrace  
vulnerability

Holy  
Communion

**Christ the King Lutheran Church**

**Great Falls, VA**

**March 9, 2025, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

*Our vision is to be a vibrant community of Jesus' disciples,  
empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring God's grace into our world.*

ELW refers to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red hymnal in the pew. ACS refers to All Creation Sings. GS2 refers to Global Songs 2. HFW refers to Hymns for Worship compiled by Augsburg Fortress.

A: indicates Assisting Minister; P: indicates Presiding Minister; C: indicates Congregation.

At places where the ✝ appears, it is customary to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.

**Should you need to use an enlarged order of service, complete with Bible readings and hymns, you will find several in red binders just outside the sanctuary.**

### A few notes about worship:

- **We are glad to have children in worship.** We also know that children sometimes need to move and express themselves in ways that the service (and the pews) don't accommodate. There is a family break room/nursery available with toys, a rocking chair, changing table, and other items. It is staffed during Sunday School and the 11:00 worship service, but you are free to use it as needed.  
To find the family break room, turn left in the foyer and go past the doors leading to the parking lot. It's the first door on the left down the hall.
- The 11:00 worship service is streamed live on Facebook. The camera angles are set so that worshipers' faces are never seen on camera (the camera may occasionally pick up the back of the heads of those sitting in the front rows); only those leading worship from the chancel, lectern, piano, and organ are ever shown fully or face-on.

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## CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office: 703-759-6068  
Hours: Mon - Wed, 10:00 - 3:00

10550 Georgetown Pike  
Great Falls, VA 22066

King's Kids Preschool: 703-759-6935  
Website: [gflutheran.org](http://gflutheran.org)

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## Join Us Wednesday Evenings in Lent



## Fellowship over Soup and Bread during Lent

March 12, 19, & 26; April 2 & 9

6:00 p.m. – Soup and bread supper

7:00 p.m. – Lent Prayer

7:30 p.m. – Choir rehearsal

## REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

First Sunday in Lent • Luke 4:1-13

Being a steward, following the example of Jesus, calls on us to make decisions and choices that may fly in the face of contemporary culture.

This requires strength and discipline which is available to each of us, if we ask for it.

# Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## PRELUDE

## GATHERING SONG: ELW 710 Let Streams of Living Justice



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

P: People of God, what do you need today?

**C: To embrace our vulnerability just as Jesus embraced our humanity.**

P: Then come, let us worship God, who promises to answer when we call, to be with us in trouble,

**C: to rescue and honor us, to show us God's salvation.**

P: We gather in the name of our triune God, whose love encircles us, whose name saves us, whose wings shelter us.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Our forty-day journey through Lent recalls Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Three times, the devil coaxed Jesus to rely on himself instead of on God. Three times, Jesus resisted, trusting God to give him all he needed.

Friends, we are not Jesus. We don't recognize relying on ourselves instead of God as a temptation; we even extol self-reliance as a virtue. Join me in confessing this to God, and asking for compassion.

*Silence for reflection.*

P: God, I confess

**C: that I struggle to confess.**

**I want to delight you by doing all the right things. I don't want to admit that I can't. To receive your forgiveness, I must confront my failure.**

P: God, I confess

**C: that I struggle to confess:**

**I'm afraid of being a burden to others. I don't want to need them too much, so I try not to need them at all.**

P: God, I confess

**C: that I struggle to confess:**

**just like I turn away from my own vulnerability I turn away from the vulnerable. I have rejected my weakness and avoided those who are weak. I have denied my frailty and looked down on those who are frail. I have resisted my dependence and thought less of those who depend on others.**

P: God, forgive us,

**C: because we struggle to forgive ourselves.**

**We build a wall of self-reliance that separates us from your love.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Jesus once said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician."

Jesus didn't come for those who didn't need him: he came for me and for you and for everyone who has fallen short.

Feel how Jesus' power is made perfect in our weakness. In Christ's name, I tell you that you are completely and entirely forgiven. You are imperfect, and you are forgiven, and you are entirely loved.

Let that forgiven-ness rest in your bones not as a sign of our failure to win the fight against sin, but as the realization that God already has. Let us shout with the psalmist:

**C: My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!**

**Amen.**

What we need is here.

What we need is here.

**GREETING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

Tender God, you emptied yourself of power in order to take on flesh in Jesus Christ. Open us to embrace our own vulnerability, so that we may discover how your strength is made perfect in weakness.

C: **Amen.**



***God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.***

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH****FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

A: A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your

God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.”<sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,<sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.<sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,<sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.<sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;<sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.<sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.<sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

*said responsively*

*The Reader (R) says the regular text; the Congregation (C) says the **bold text**.*

R: <sup>1</sup>You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty –

**C: <sup>2</sup>you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”**

R: <sup>9</sup>Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

**C: <sup>10</sup>no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

R: <sup>11</sup>For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

**C: <sup>12</sup>Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

R: <sup>13</sup>You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

**C: <sup>14</sup>I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

R: <sup>15</sup>They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

**C: <sup>16</sup>With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:8b-13

A: A reading from Romans.

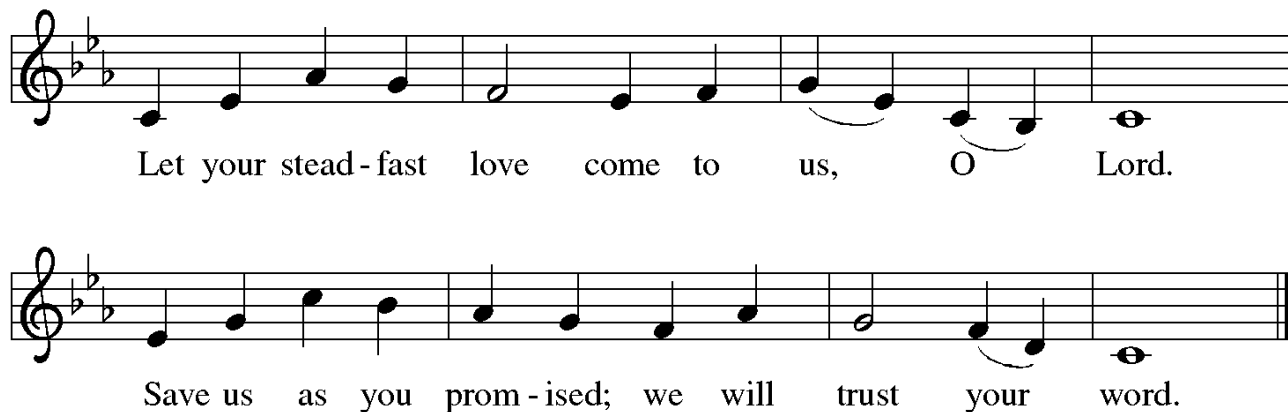
<sup>8b</sup>“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);<sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.<sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”<sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.<sup>13</sup> For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: <sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' <sup>11</sup> and

'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Henry Langknecht

*Silence for meditation may follow the sermon.*

*Please stand when the music begins.*

*The service continues on the following page.*



HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 706 The People Walk

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Un pue - blo que ca - mi - na por el mun - do gri -  
The peo - ple walk through - out the world to - geth - er and



tan - do: "¡Ven, Se - ñor!" Un pue - blo que bus - ca en es - ta  
cry out, "Come, O Lord"; the peo - ple who long to claim the



vi - da la gran li - be - ra - ción.  
prom - ise, God's lib - er - at - ing Word.



1 Los po - bres siem - pre es - pe - ran el a - ma - ne - cer de un  
1 The poor ones of the world a - wait the dawn of hope, when  
2 You broke the bonds of sin, un - tied the cap - tive's hands, re -  
3 The life - blood of the world is shed in mind - less war; and



dí - a más jus - to y sin o - pre - sión. Los  
jus - tice will shine and make op - pres - sion flee. The  
leased us from fear and slav - ry to the law. We  
fam - lies de - sire a home where con - flicts cease. With

*Refrain / Estribillo*



po - bres he - mos pues - to la es - pe - ran - za en ti: ¡Li - ber - ta - dor!  
emp - ty hands of all are raised to you, Lord God: oh, set us free!  
lift our hands in hope, we put our trust in you, O God of love.  
all the world we lift our hands in hope to you, O God of peace.

APOSTLES' CREED

*said in unison*

**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

A: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C: Amen.**

## GREETING OF PEACE

*Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying Peace be with you as you shake hands or embrace.*

*Please be seated following the sharing of the peace.*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**



***God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.***

## OFFERING AND MUSICAL OFFERING

*During the offering, plates will be passed along the pews in which to place your offering. Make checks payable to "Christ the King Lutheran Church". Contributions go toward the ministries and programs of Christ the King Lutheran Church.*

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.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

God, you gave us what we needed to love you today. Now we offer you a portion of these gifts, a harvest of the love you planted. Now bless our gifts and use them in your service.

C: **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord!**

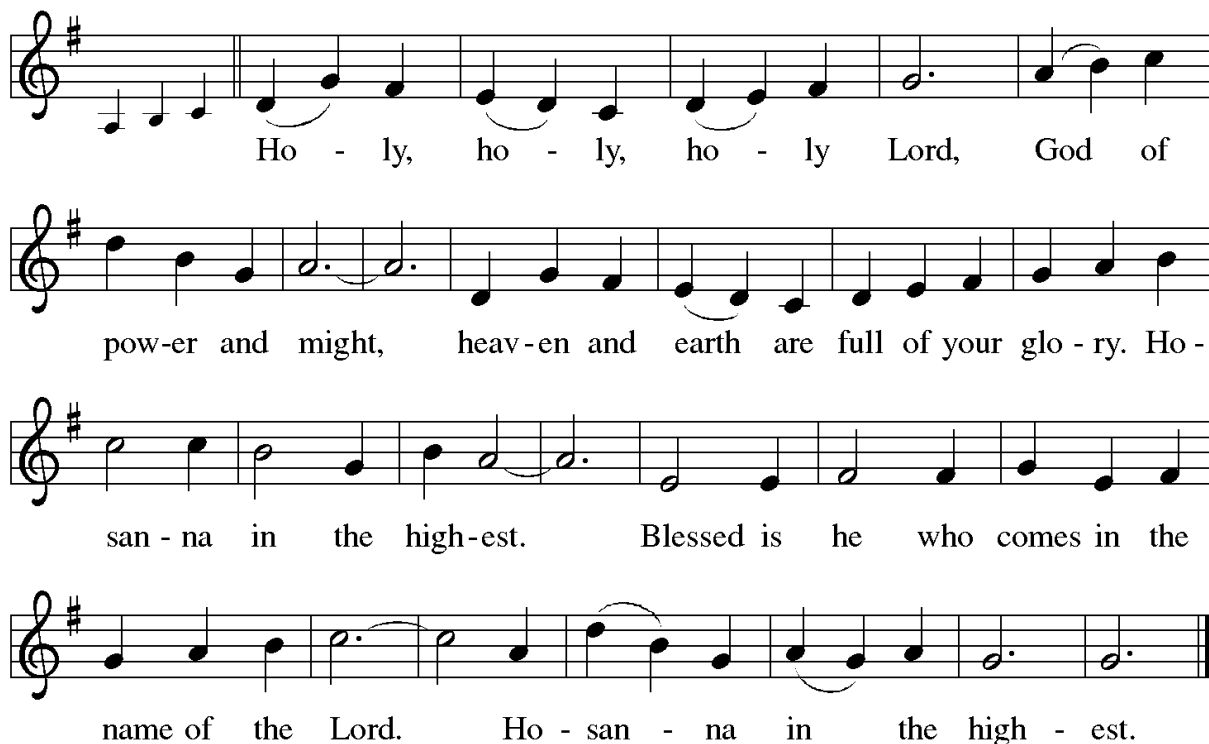
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

P: It is not only right, but even needful for us to thank you, God, for the cosmos overflows with your goodness. You open your hand to satisfy the needs of everything that you have made, and all of creation sings its thankful praise. And so we join the echoing song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God, brimming with your extravagant love.

In the beginning you created, not because you needed to but because it delighted you:

**C: you made the textures of feathers and fur, the fragrance of pine and saltwater, glinting minerals and sparkling stars, humankind in gorgeous diversity.**

P: But we reached for more than what you freely gave.

**C: We sought to meet our own needs rather than to trust in your abundant provision.**

P: Though you sent prophets to teach us compassion, calling us to share our bread with the hungry and our means with the poor,

**C: we learned to fear scarcity and to seek safety in self-interest.**

P: Still, your faithfulness to us is inexhaustible.

You became like us in Jesus Christ, whose life magnified the abundance of your grace and the lavishness of your love.

**C: He saw the richness of a widow's pennies and the surpassing fineness of a lily's petals and the towering greatness of a mustard seed and fed thousands with five loaves and two fish.**

P: On the night of his arrest, he gathered his friends for a simple meal and set a feast of love.

He took bread, 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.

P: And so we remember:

**C: the command to love as he has loved.**

P: We remember:

**C: the life of God poured out for us like wine.**

P: We remember:

**C: the resurrection that shattered the power of death.**

P: We remember:

**C: Christ's ascension into heaven and promise to come again.**

P: Extravagant God, pour out your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup. Let the fragrance of your love fill this house.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Let it fill our noses with the sweetness of grapes and the earthiness of wheat.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Let it fill our hearts as lavish compassion for the little, the lost, and the least.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Let this bread and cup magnify your prodigal love, mirroring the heavenly feast that has no end. Bring us at last to the infinite table where you have gathered all your holy ones in the new creation where every tear is wiped away, and every need has been met in you.

All honor and glory is yours, O God, who is both Giver and Gift, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: 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

P: All we need is here. Come to the table.

*Please be seated.*

#### DISTRIBUTION WITH MUSICAL OFFERING

*Instructions for communion distribution will be given at this time.*

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Those who have not received instruction or who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

O Jesus, you have fed us with the bread that has no price, the precious gift of your own self. Now send us out like Mary with her perfume, prepared to give the best we have to dignify the world you so loved.

**C: Amen.**



*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**BLESSING**

P: Now may God, whose prophetic voice still perseveres, who speaks for the little, the lost, and the least, whose eye is on the sparrow, bless you and sustain you. Today God has answered your need, and now the Spirit sends you out to answer the world's need.

C: **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 632 O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home!

**DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**