



Central Lutheran Church  
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 12, 2023  
8:30am & 11am Worship

## Welcome to Central!

**Central Lutheran Church**, a congregation of the Oregon Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, is a Reconciling in Christ community. We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love. We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people, regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

**Our mission** is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another; nurturing faithful living; serving those in need; and sharing the Gospel.

**A special word of welcome to our guests today:** Thank you for joining us on this most holy day. If you are a first-time or occasional visitor, we invite you to fill out the visitor information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. **Parents of young children:** We welcome the sound of little ones in worship and so we encourage children and parents to worship together. However, if it is helpful to you, you are welcome to utilize the children's space located adjacent to the Narthex (entrance) to the Sanctuary. Additionally, there are children's bags and kid's bulletins available in the Narthex. **Large print bulletins as well as hearing assistance receivers are also available** from the ushers. Please note: if your personal hearing device has a T-Coil there are Hearing Loops in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.

Although masks are no longer mandated, we encourage you to make an individual choice as to whether to wear a mask, and further we ask that you be respectful of the personal space and comfort level of those around you.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Carillon

**PRELUDE** Ego flos campi (I Am the Rose of Sharon) Caterina Assandra

## **WELCOME**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your beloved children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

# HYMN #804 Come Down, O Love Divine *(please stand)*

1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine  
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be, long,  
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing -  
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,  
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

## 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.**

## 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.



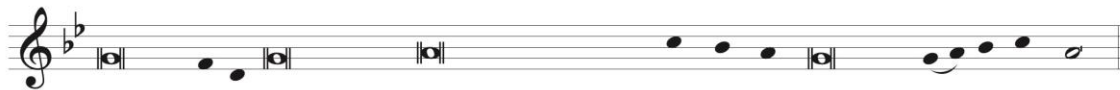
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray — to the Lord.



Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.



For this ho-ly 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 defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Organ*

**3** *Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, al-le-lu ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich - es wis-dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*

hon-or, bless-ing and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, 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, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

*Final refrain*

God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A - men 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 al - le - lu ia.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

## **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

[Moses said to the people:] <sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

**ANTHEM** (11:00)

*Thy Holy Wings*

Cantor

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?

<sup>4</sup>For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely human? <sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*please stand*)



**CANTOR:** You are the light<sup>1</sup> of the world.\* A city set upon a hill can-<sup>1</sup> not be hid. *Assembly repeats Antiphon.*

## GOSPEL Matthew 5:21-37

The Gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before



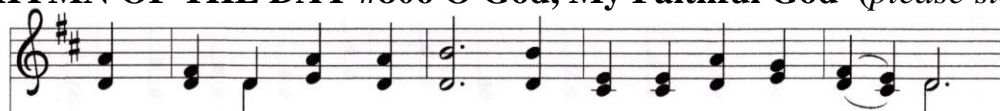
the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. <sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. <sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. <sup>33</sup>“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Ben Nickodemus

# HYMN OF THE DAY #806 O God, My Faithful God *(please stand)*



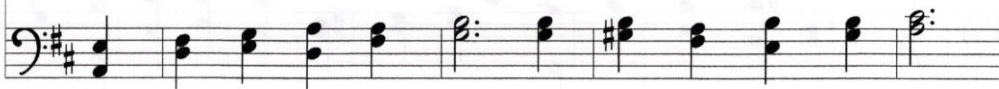
- 1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun - tain ev - er flow - ing,
- 2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
- 3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
- 4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing;  
 what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—  
 guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;  
 help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in  
 to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless  
 but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,  
 help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.  
 what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.  
 then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.  
 and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.



## **NICENE CREED**

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

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)***

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING (8:30)** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* John Rutter Chorale  
*You may place your offering in the plates as you come forward for communion.*

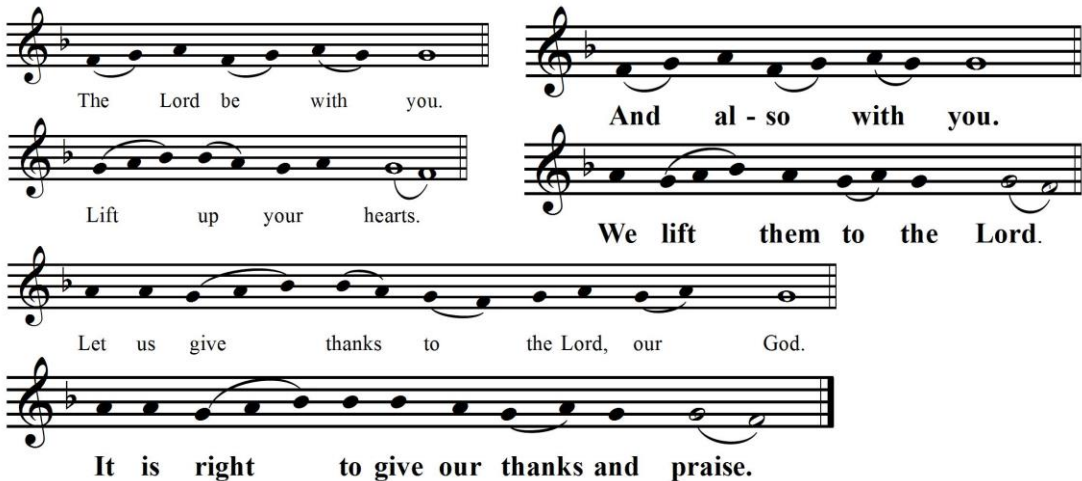
## OFFERTORY RESPONSE (8:30) *(please stand)*

Praise the Lover of Creation, Praise the Spirit, Friend of Friends,  
Praise the true Beloved, our Savior, Praise the God, who makes and mends,  
Strong, surrendered, many-splendored, Three whose Oneness never ends.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Creator God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive these gifts for the sake of him who offers himself to us through this simple meal of bread and wine. Strengthen us, through this meal, in faith toward you and in fervent love for one another. We ask this through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

And al - so with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **SANCTUS from the St. Cecilia Mass      Charles Gounod**

*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts,

*Sabaoth,*

*Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria ejus.*

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

*Osanna in excelsis.*

Hosanna in the highest.

The Chorale with David Gustafson, Soloist and Andy Strielmeier, Violin and Liesl Benda, Viola

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took break, 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 in 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. (please be seated)*

## LAMB OF GOD



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 DISTRIBUTION** *O Welt, ich muß dich lassen* Brahms

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

### OUR LIFE TOGETHER

#### **BENEDICTION** (*please stand*)

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

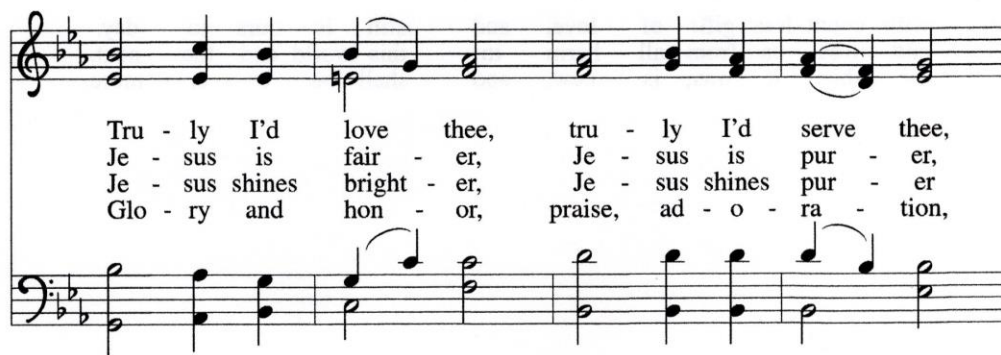
# RECESSIONAL HYMN #838 Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;  
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

*Präludium in E*

Nikolaus Bruhns

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**Cantor at 11:** Honora Mathisen-Lund

**Please join us between services for education (9:45-10:45).** Children meet in the Godly Play Room. Adults meet in the Library for a new series on Prayer and Our Prayer Life from the Prayer Ministry Team.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** returns to Central on Together Tuesday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 5:15pm in the parish hall. Join us as we celebrate Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) & as we prepare to enter into the season of Lent. Contact Pastor Ben if you are willing to help with preparation.

**Ash Wednesday service is Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**, at noon and 7:30pm. Thereafter, the schedule for Lent will be Together Tuesdays (Feb. 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28) with Soup Supper from 5:15-6pm, followed by Music Together, Children's Choir, and Adult Education at 6pm and concluding with Holden Evening Prayer worship at 7pm.

**A word of welcome and invitation to our guests:** If you would like to find out more about the teachings of the Lutheran Christian faith and/or how you might engage more fully in our life together at Central, we invite you to contact Pastor Laurie or Pastor Ben.



## **Central Lutheran Staff**

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