

# *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

## *Sunday, February 7, 2021*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
215 N. Warren St.  
Orwigsburg, PA  
570-366-2316

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

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### GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

"Praise to the Lord"

R. Wilson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,  
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in God's mercy and grace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—  
our own sins and the brokenness that binds us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.**

**We exploit the earth and its resources  
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,  
for all we have done and left undone.**

**Amen.**

How vast is God's amazing grace!

Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus,  
our sins are washed away, and we are truly forgiven.

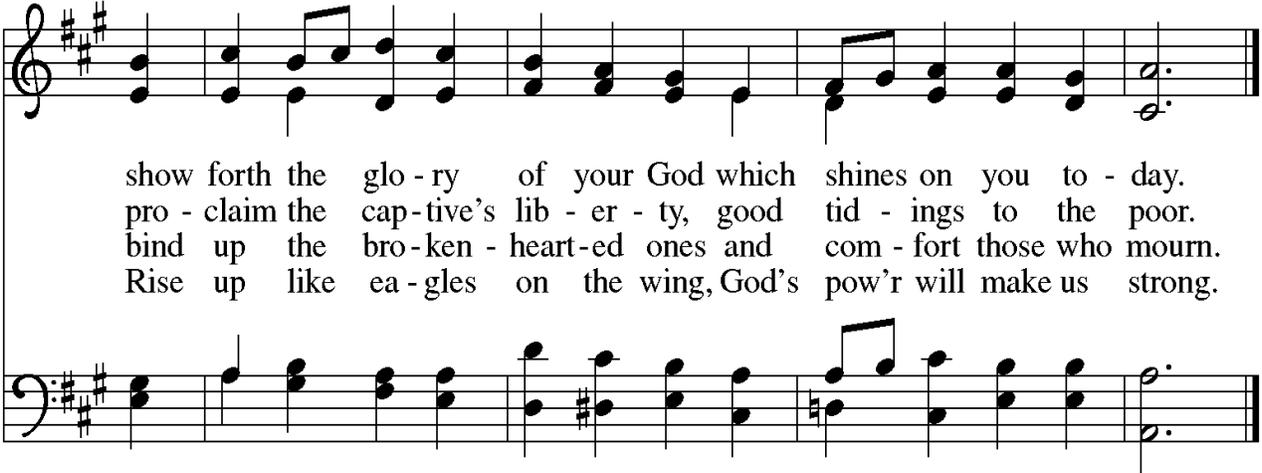
And now as God's beloved children,  
let us live out Christ's justice and mercy,  
and share with the world, God's reconciling peace.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "Arise, Your Light Has Come"

vs. 1-4



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

**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**

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### **A Reading from Isaiah**

- <sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- <sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
- <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
- <sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- <sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
- <sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?  
He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.
- <sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the Lord,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- <sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.
- <sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.
- <sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

(Isaiah 40:21-31)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 147:1-11, 21c (Read Responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**He counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make music to our God upon the harp.

<sup>8</sup>**He covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>he makes grass to grow upon the mountains  
and green plants to serve mankind.

<sup>10</sup>**He provides food for flocks and herds  
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

<sup>11</sup>He is not impressed by the might of a horse;  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

<sup>12</sup>**but the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who await his gracious favor. <sup>21c</sup> Hallelujah!**

**A Reading from 1 Corinthians**

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so

that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

(1 Corinthians 9:16-23)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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.

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various disease, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

(Mark 1:29-39)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## “On Eagle’s Wings”

vs. 1 & 2



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: “My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!”



And he will raise you up on ea-gle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God’s wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

## SERMON

### THE APOSTLES’ CREED (Read in Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary,  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all of God's creatures, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you (*especially everyone on our prayer list*), let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For this congregation: for visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people who open us to new understandings, and for older people who remind us of what is best about we have already learned, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

*(The Pastor concludes the prayer.)* Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERTORY**

### **MEAL**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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 (Read in Unison)**

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**

Christ is here in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine.  
Come and be fed.

### ***[INSTRUCTIONS***

*The Sacrament will be distributed by the Pastor and the Communion Assistant while the congregation is seated.*

*If a person wishes to receive a bread wafer, he/she will extend a hand. The Pastor will use small stainless-steel tongs to pick up the wafer and drop it into the person's hand. The person will then pull up his/her face mask and place the wafer in his/her mouth. After the wafer has been received, the Pastor will proceed to the next person in the pew.*

*When the Pastor has returned to the center aisle, the Communion Assistant will go up the same vacant pew until he/she comes to the next person. If this person wishes to receive a cup of wine, he/she will extend a hand. The Communion Assistant will allow the person to pick up a cup from the tray. He/she will then pull up his/her face mask and drink from the cup.*

*If someone seeks a blessing instead of the Sacrament, the Pastor will give a blessing to him/her without making any physical contact.*

*Empty cups should be placed in the plastic bags found in the pews. These bags will be removed from the pews once the service has ended.]*

## **TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Christ Jesus, at this table we have been fed with your very body and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this feast nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

May Almighty God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be with you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”  
[See back of bulletin]

vs. 1-4

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

“To God Alone Be Highest Praise”

J. S. Bach

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**Altar Flowers** are presented in memory of my father, by his daughter, Joanne Emerich.

**Bulletins** are presented in honor of my father, Francis Piacine, by Danielle Richards

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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED BY OUR FOOD PANTRY**

February is St. Paul's month to provide volunteers for the Orwigsburg Food Pantry opening. Packers will be needed for Friday evening, February 19, beginning at 6:00 PM. The Penn State Girls' Basketball Team may also provide volunteers for this work, but that is not guaranteed. People who are 18 years old and older and who can lift fairly heavy boxes and place them in cars, will be needed from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Our Food Pantry is careful to observe masking and distancing guidelines and all the Saturday morning work is outdoors, as this is a drive-by distribution event.

St. Paul's is one of the largest and most generous congregations participating in the Pantry. Please volunteer and support our Food Pantry in this important work.

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**Introduction to the day:** In Isaiah, the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So, in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

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**SERVING THIS SUNDAY (2/07/21)**

**8:00 AM**

LECTOR: TBA; GREETER: Krista Harding

**10:30 AM**

LECTOR: Sue Schenck; GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Sue Reier;

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Wayne Lutsey

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich;

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/14/21)**

**8:00 AM**

LECTOR: TBA; GREETER: Krista Harding

**10:30 AM**

LECTOR: Chris Long; GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Karen Travor;

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

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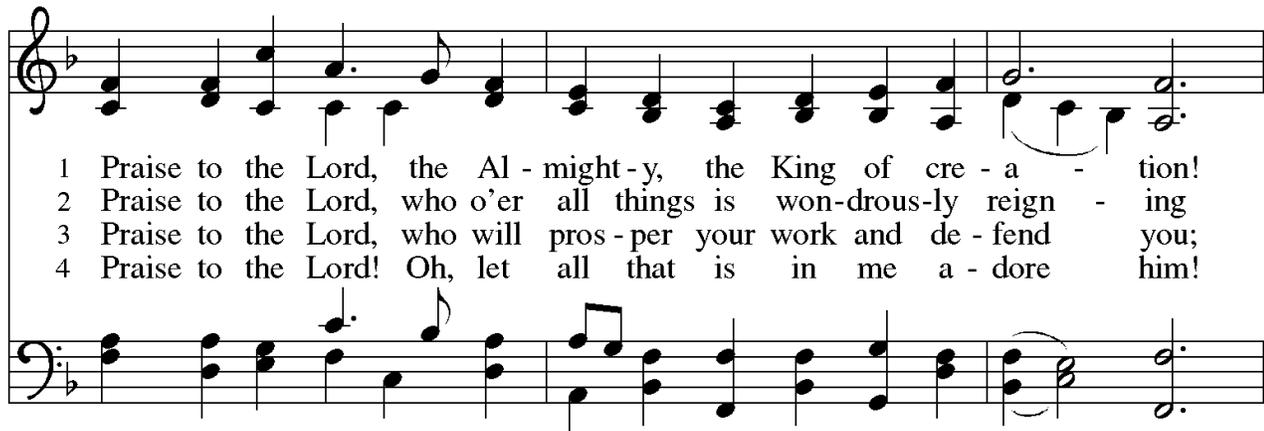
**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

Sunday, February 7	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Thursday, February 11	7:00 PM	Adult Forum via ZOOM
Saturday, February 13	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, February 14	8:00 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Worship
Following 10:30 AM Worship		Annual Congregational Meeting

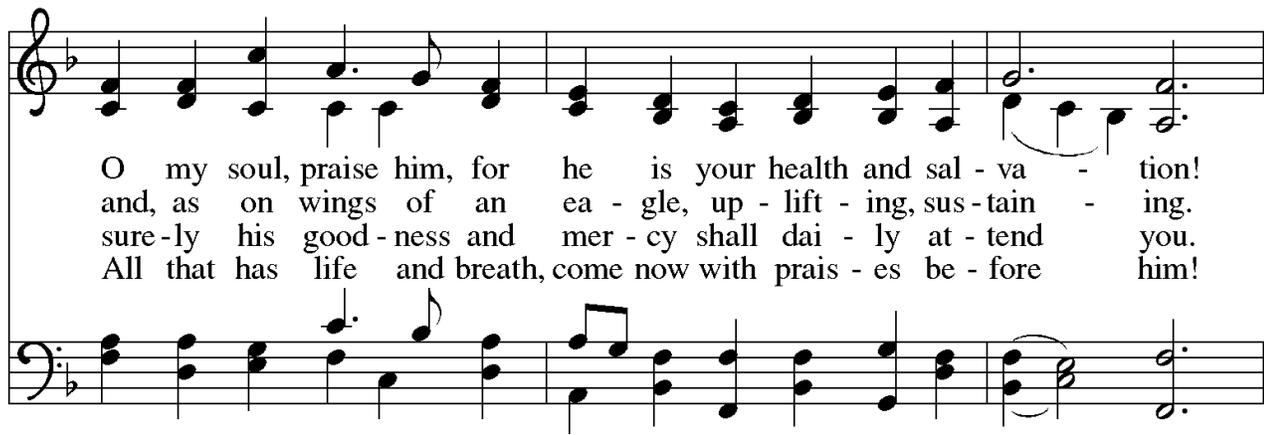
## SENDING HYMN

## "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

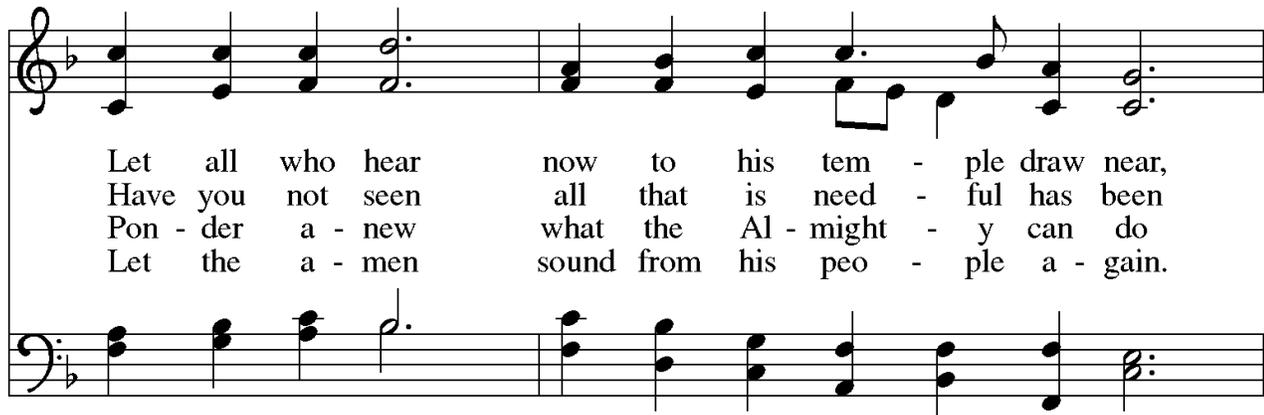
vs. 1-4



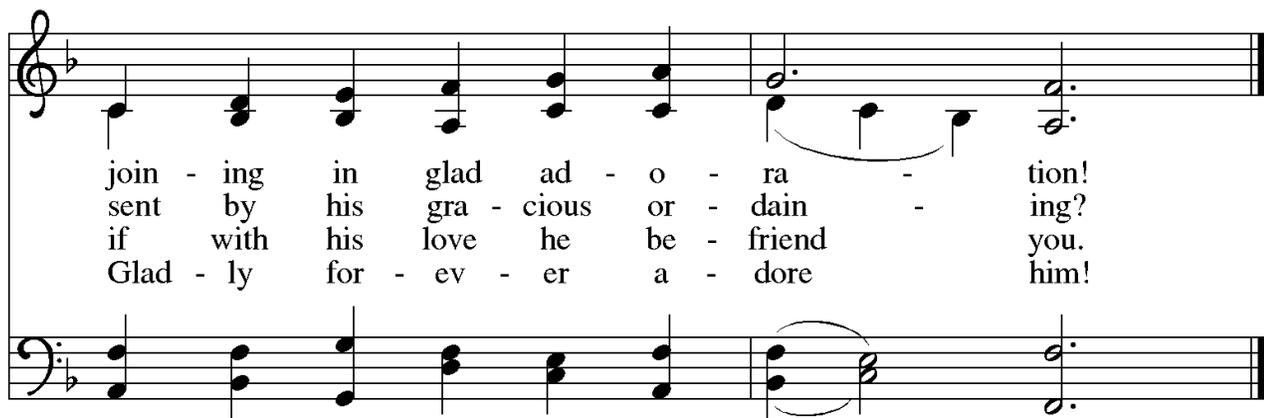
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing  
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;  
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
 if with his love he be - friend you.  
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!