# SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*January 18, 2026*

*10:00am*

**Land Acknowledgment**
We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

## Gathering

**Prelude**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Piano** | On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry | Anne Organ |
| **Pacibells** | Lord Jesus, Think On Me | William Ringham |

**Welcome**

**Confession and Forgiveness**
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.
**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,**
**but we have served our own interests**
**at the expense of our neighbors.**
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**
**We say the right words,**
**but our hearts are far from you.**
**Turn us to seek your face.**
**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**
**Amen.**

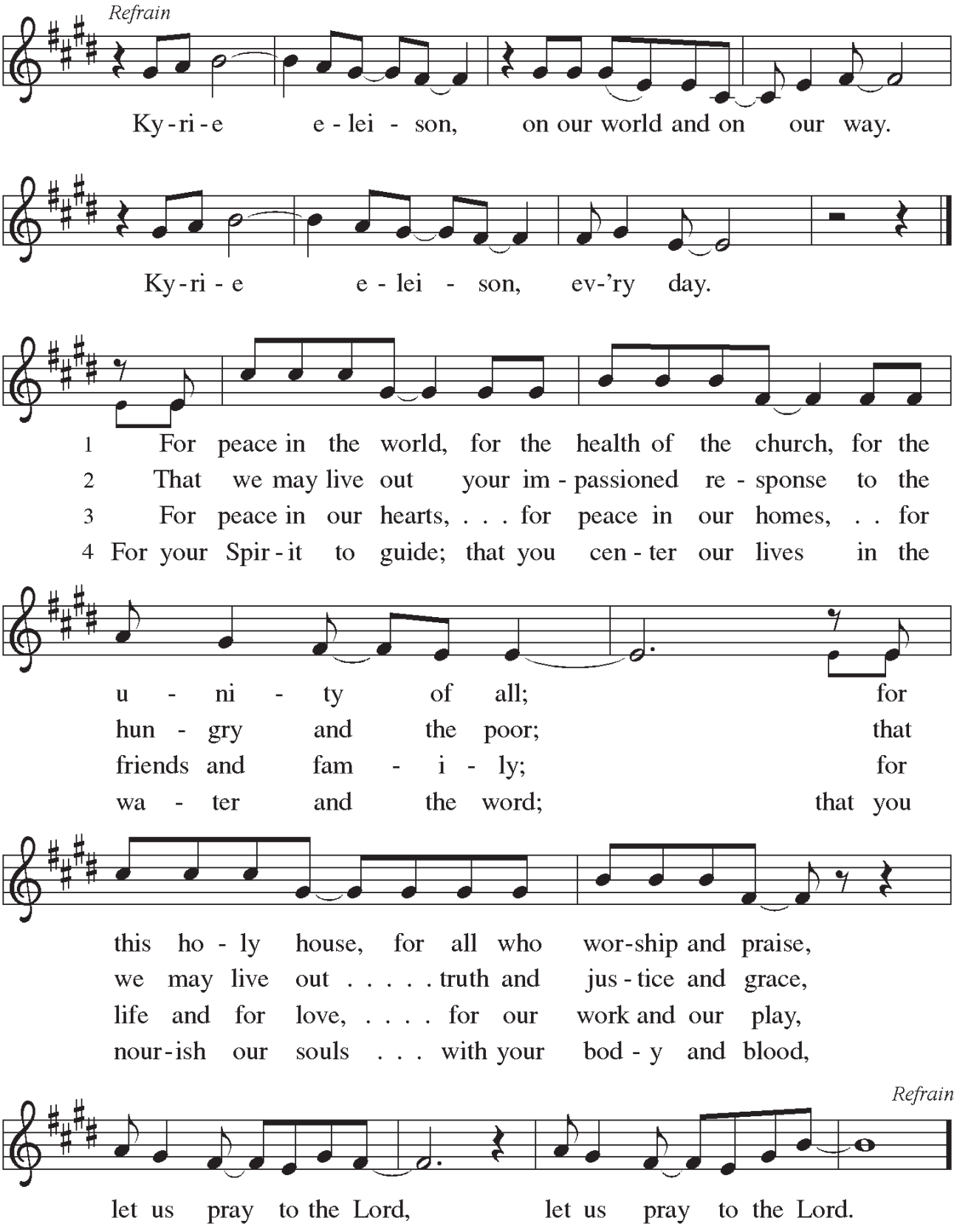
The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
**Amen.**

**Opening Hymn** Songs of Thankfulness and Praise **#310**

**Apostolic 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**
Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
**Amen**

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## Word

**Children's Message**

**The First Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 49**
1 Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
3 And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
4 But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD
and my reward with my God."

5 And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
6 he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

7 Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up;

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

**Anthem** A Welcome Place *Joel Raney*

Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a welcome place.
To the hungry and the poor, may there be an open door.
To the weary and distressed, may this be a place of rest.
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a welcome place.

Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a learning place
Where we read your holy Word, teaching us that Christ is Lord,
preaching he has come to save, learning as we walk by faith.
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a welcome place.

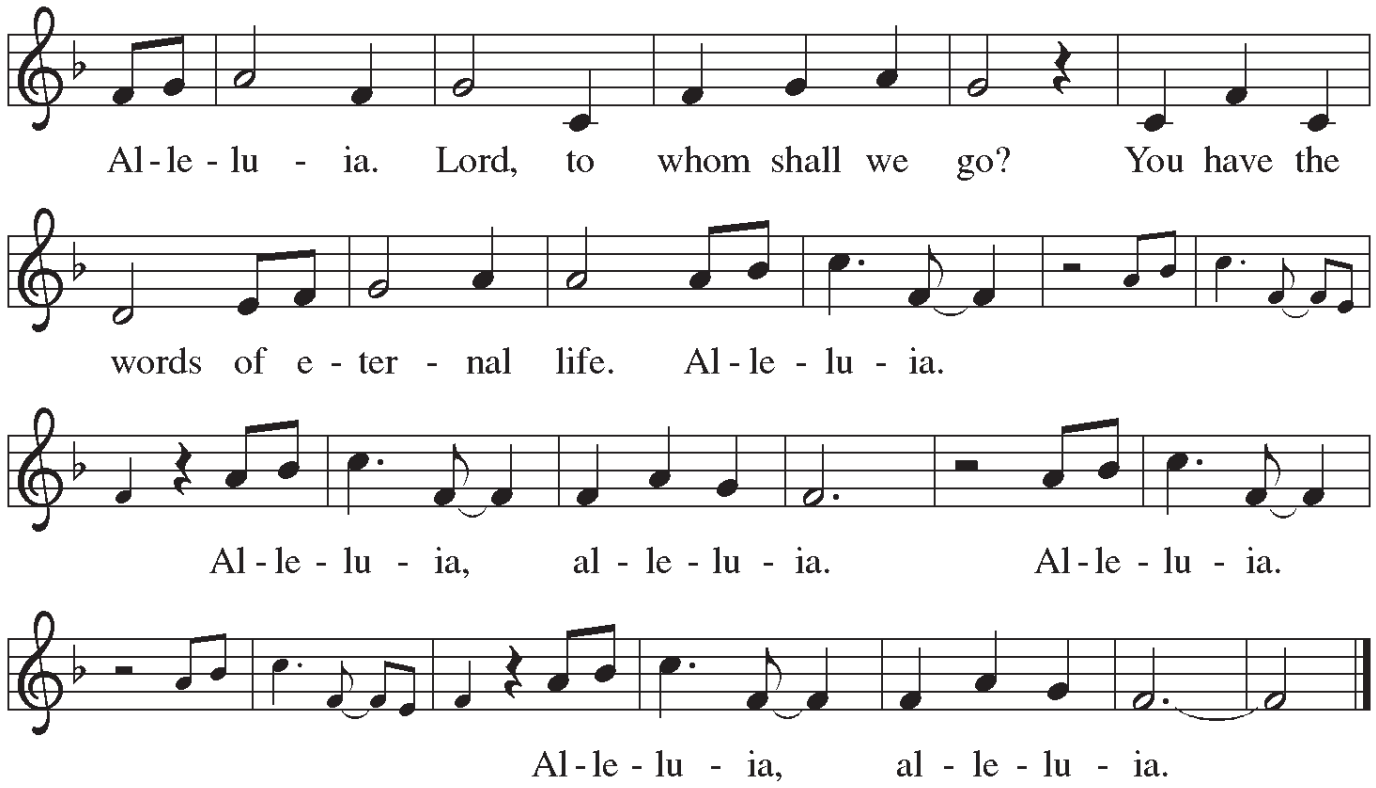
Reaching out to others, serving both great and small,
sharing our abundance with one and all.
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a holy place,
Where we come to seek the truth; fill our hearts and worship you
in our words and through our deeds, knowing you will meet our needs.
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace, make this church a welcome place.
Amen!

**The Second Reading is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1**

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our
brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every
place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: 3 Grace
to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has
been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him,
in speech and knowledge of every kind 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been
strengthened among you 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait
for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the
end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is
faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**




**The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 1**
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

29 John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said,
'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' 31 I
myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that
he might be revealed to Israel."

32 And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove,
and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me
to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and
remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I myself have seen
and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and as
he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" 37 The
two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are
you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher),
"where are you staying?"

39 He said to them, "Come and see."

They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that
day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon
Peter's brother. 41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have
found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). 42 He brought Simon to Jesus,

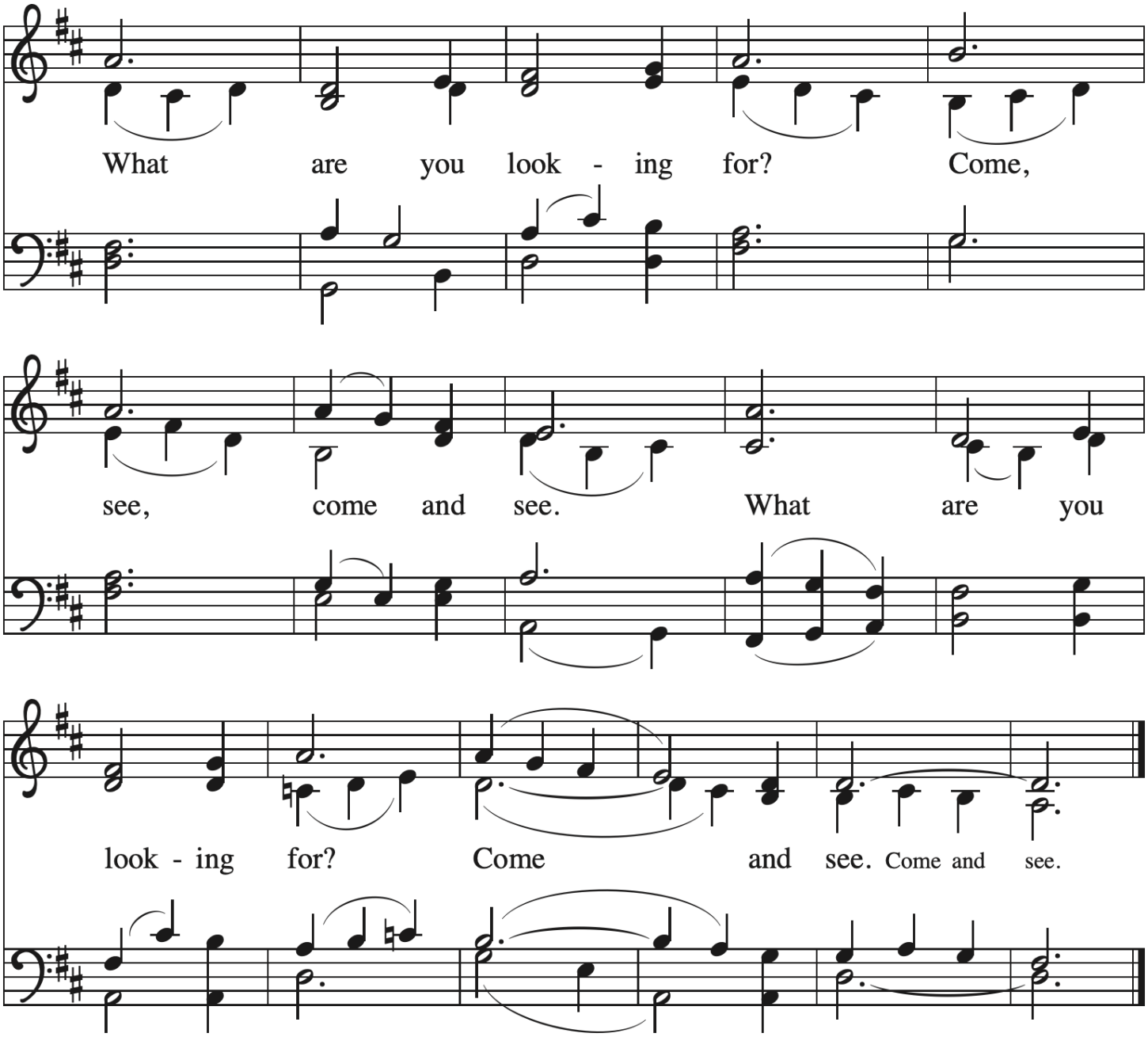
who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn of the Day**

# Come and See



**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 the Church**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

. . . Merciful God,
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.
**Amen.**

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## Meal

**Offering**

**Pacibells** On Christ, the Solid Rock, I Stand *Kevin Stewart*

**Offering Prayer**

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

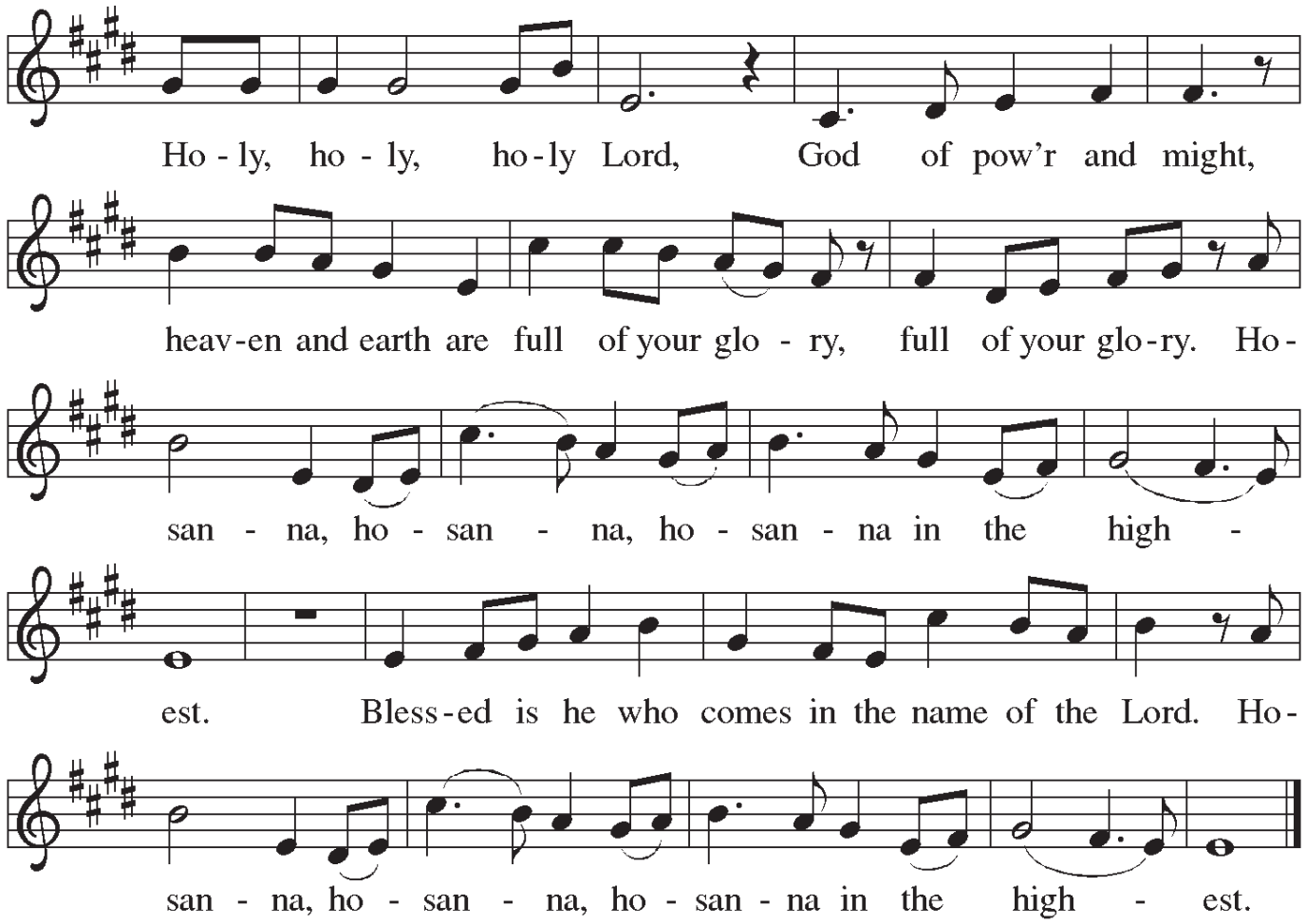
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



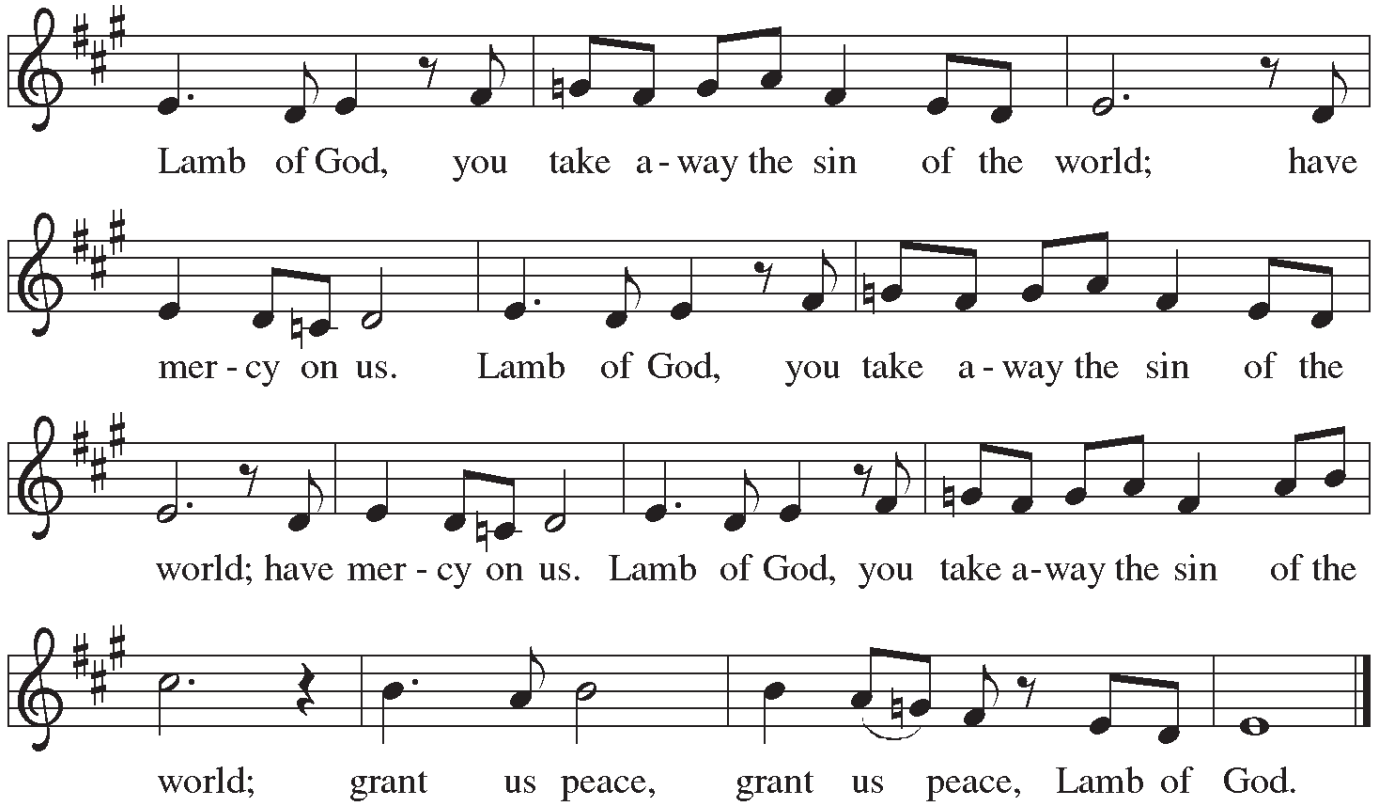

**Eucharistic Prayer**

**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.

**Communion**

*Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.*



**Prayer After Communion**
Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
**Amen.**

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## Sending

**Blessing**

**Sending Hymn** *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* *#696*

**Dismissal**
Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** *Gloria* *Marcel Dupré*

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**Minister:** Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones
**Assisting Minister:** Pete Lokken
**Reader:** Barb Eidahl
**Organist:** Elaine Mann
**Choir Director:** Micah Bland

## Weekly Calendar

**Sunday (18th)**
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

**Monday**
*Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
Scouts – 6pm

**Tuesday**
Prayer Group – 11am
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm
Church Council – 7pm

**Wednesday**
Crafters – 10:00am
Text Study – 12:00noon
Choir Rehearsal – 7:00pm

**Thursday**
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

**Friday**
Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first female doctor in the US – 1849

**Sunday (18th)**
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Eau Claire Tenant–Landlord Resource Center, Brighter than Sunshine, Scouts, ECWiT, Theater Guild

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2026-1-18

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Annual Meeting Coming Up

The congregation's annual meeting will take place on February 1st after worship. All members are encouraged to attend. Reports will be available next Sunday.

## Offering Envelopes

The 2026 offering envelopes are on a table in the narthex. Please pick your's up.

If you are a new member there may not be a set with your name on it since we have to order them far in advance. In that case, there are several blank sets without names or numbers on them. Feel free to pick one up and use it for the time being.

## Amy Benson Funeral Service

Amy Benson's family is preparing her memorial service with a visitation at Grace on Friday, Feb 6th from 4 to 7pm and a service on Saturday, Feb 7th at 1:30 with a reception to follow.

## Organ Repair

Thanks to a generous bequest, work has begun on phase 1 of re-leathering the organ. All of the original leathers have deteriorated and need replacing. There is one for each pipe of the organ plus some other moving parts. The current repair covers the Swell division (about ¼ of the organ) and the pedal wind reservoir. The entire mechanism under the Swell pipes was removed and the parts containing leather sent to a specialized company.

## Haven House

Hope Gospel Mission's Community Haven House is a safe space for people experiencing homelessness to get connected with the resources they need to move toward wellness, and out of chronic homelessness. To do this well, we need more help. We need volunteers to connect guests with agencies, assist guests during the check-in process, assist with shower and laundry schedules, and help with various cleaning tasks. We're looking for volunteers that might be able to cover a 2 or 4 hour shift, once every week or every other week.

Our volunteer opportunities are listed on our website, hopegospelmission.org, or our volunteer coordinator, Linda, can be contacted directly, 715-552-5566 ext 1302, or lindav@hopegospelmission.org

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM
Phone: 715-832-9713
Email: info@grace-church.org
Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org