

ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
606 W 15TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS | WWW.SAINTMARTINS.ORG

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

11:00 AM



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

LOVE, SHARE, & SERVE BOLDLY.

No matter where you find yourself on your faith journey—join us!

Here you have found a church home where believers congregate to encourage each other and grow spiritually in an abundant relationship with the Lord. At St. Martin's, we promote and value an inclusive fellowship. Whether you are young, old, gay, straight, single, married, partnered—from all walks of life, backgrounds, and cultures—we welcome you!

The Holy Spirit gathers us around the means of grace - the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need.

Families with small children may enjoy playing with toys on the Prayground rug in the Narthex. The nursery is open for children 0-4 years. The joyful noise of our young ones is always welcome in this space.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex, or you can listen through your smartphone. The ushers are available to help you.

Notes in italics offer directions about the service. The people's responses are in bold.

LENTEN INTRODUCTION

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

PRELUDE

CHORALE PRELUDE ON REPTON (HE COMES TO US AS ONE UNKNOWN)

ROBERT J. POWELL

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME

The people stand as the tower bell rings to begin worship.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.

Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

**Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.**

Amen.

Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.

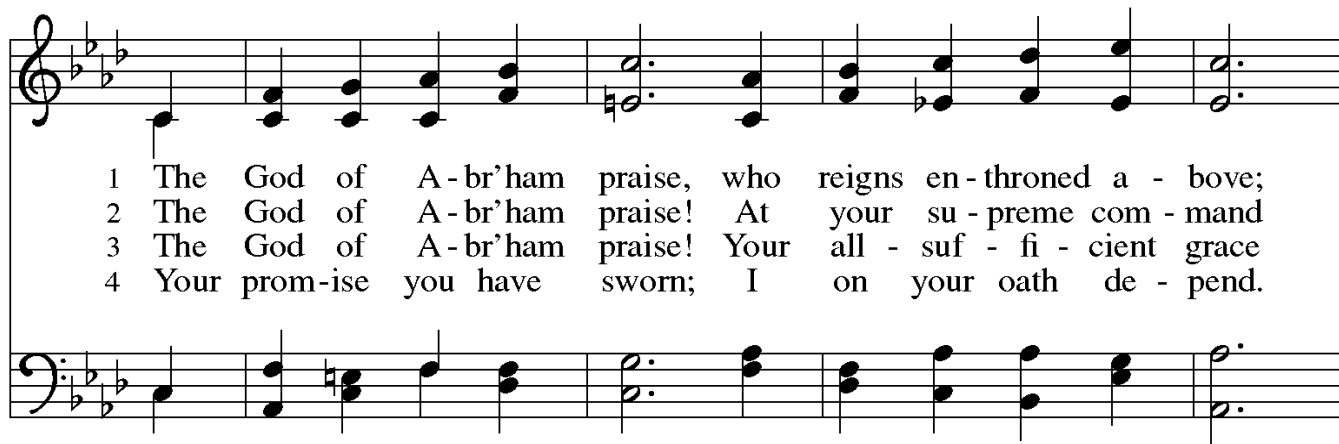
In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.

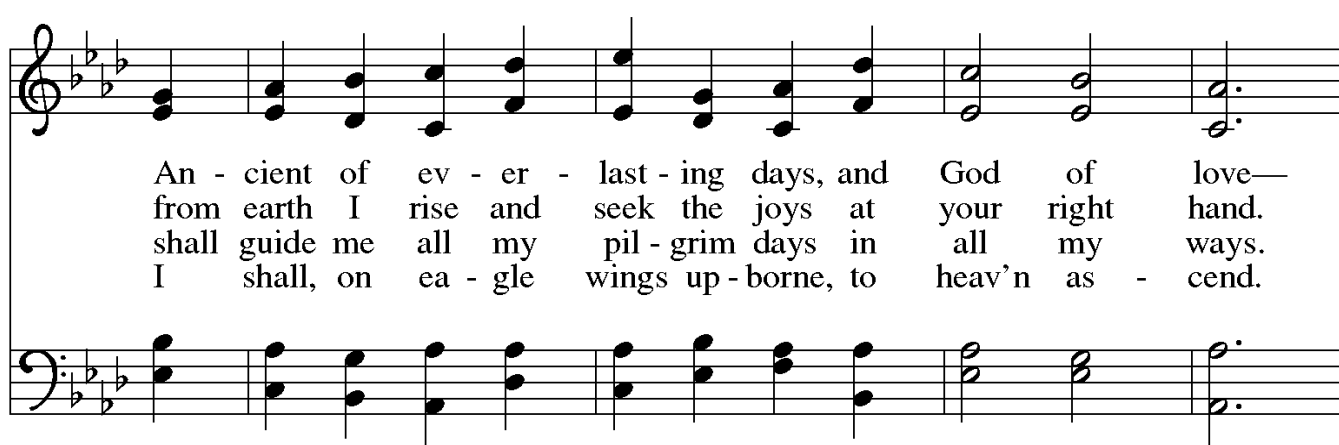
Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN
THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE

ELW 831
YIGDAL



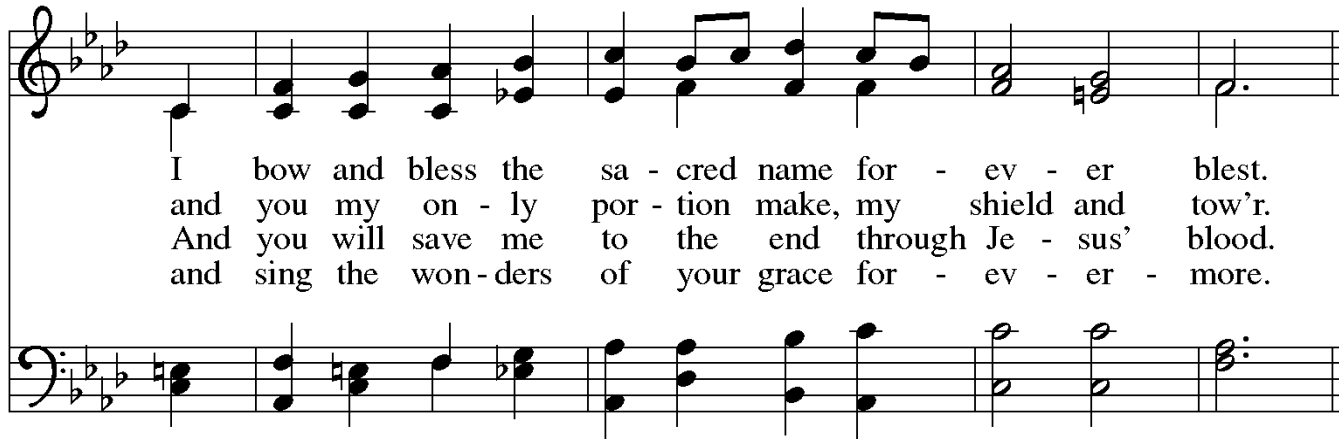
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all-suf-fi-cient grace
4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de-pend.



An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days, and God of love—
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
shall guide me all my pil-grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ea-gle wings up-borne, to heav'n as-cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con-fessed;
I all on earth for-sake—its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r—
You deign to call me friend; you call your-self my God!
I shall be-hold your face; I shall your pow'r a-dore,



I bow and bless the sa-cred name for-ev-er blest.
and you my on-ly por-tion make, my shield and tow'r.
And you will save me to the end through Je-sus' blood.
and sing the won-ders of your grace for-ev-er-more.

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.



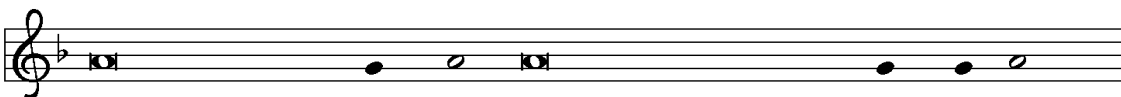
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, 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 unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



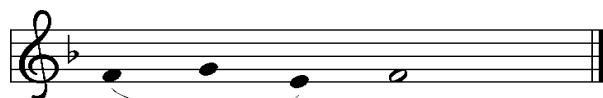
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

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

The people are seated

FIRST READING

GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

A reading from Genesis

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

A reading from Romans

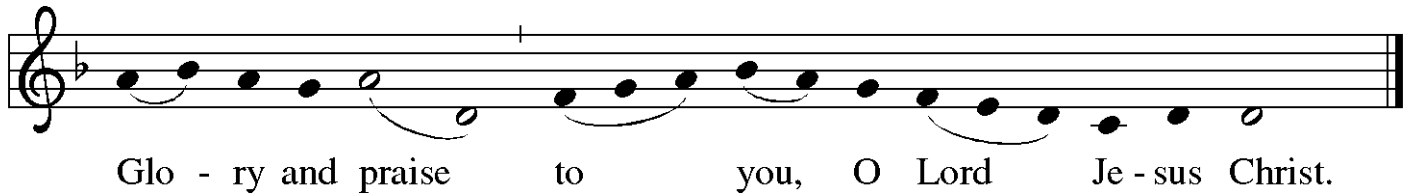
¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand as they are able.



GOSPEL

MARK 8:31-38

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

The people are seated. Children are invited to come forward for the children's time.

LET THE CHILDREN COME

TIM O'BRIEN

58 F C/E Dm C F

Let the chil-dren come to me. Don't turn them a - way. Let the chil-dren

63 C B♭ G B♭ C B♭ Am

come to me and lis-ten when I say that when you see a child of God, you

70 Dm C/E F C Dm C/E F C

see God's King-dom to - day.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

The people stand to sing. Prayer cards are collected by the ushers during the sermon song. Prayer requests may also be sent via email or text message to prayer@saintmartins.org.

RESTORE IN US, O GOD

ELW 328

BAYLOR



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.

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

*Respond to each petition with: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

PEACE

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

The people greet each other, saying "Peace be with you" or similar

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

The people are seated.

St. Martin's and its ministries are supported by our offerings of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. We give now as God has so graciously given to us. To donate, go to saintmartins.org/giving or scan the QR code.



MUSICAL OFFERING

DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND

C. H. H. PARRY

OFFERING HYMN

HE COMES TO US AS ONE UNKNOWN

ELW 737

REPTON



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together,

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

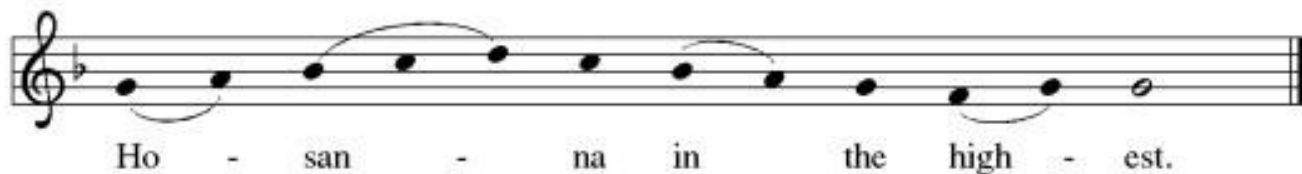
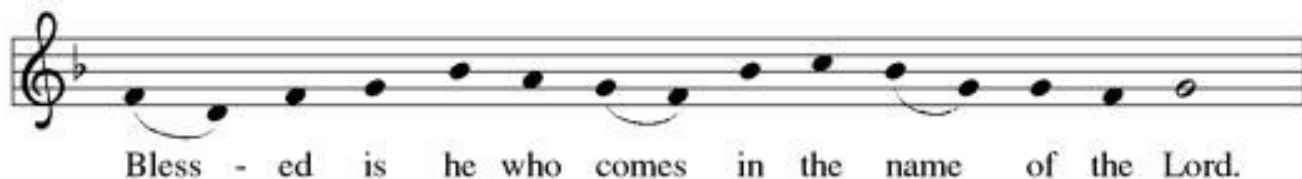
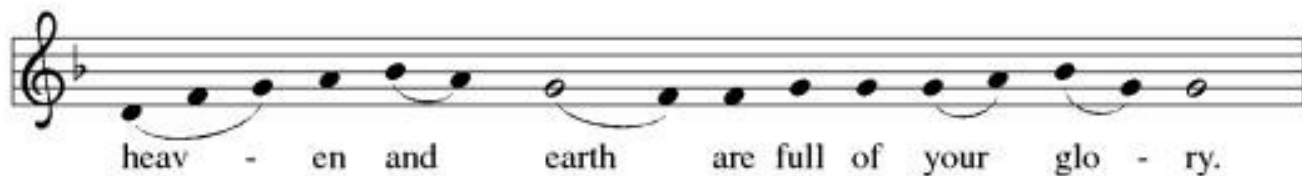
We lift them to the Lord.

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, ... and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.
Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

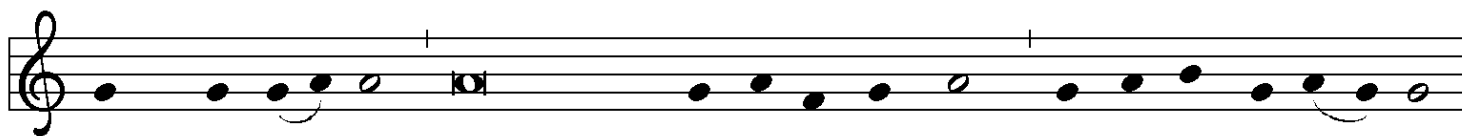
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Our communion table is open to all. Everyone is welcome to receive communion regardless of age or denomination. Please come forward to receive the bread then pick up a cup to receive wine. Gluten free wafers are available if requested. If you prefer to remain in your seat, please pick up a communion cup in the narthex or ask an usher to let the communion assistants know. A Stephen Minister will be in front at the Prayer Station to offer prayer for any reason during communion. You are invited to light a prayer candle on the table near the altar.

AGNUS DEI



A - gnus De - i, qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun - di: mi - se - re - re no - bis.
Lamb of God, . . you take away the sin of the world; have . . mer - cy on . . us.



A - gnus De - i, qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun - di: mi - se - re - re no - bis.
Lamb of God, . . you take away the sin of the world; have . . mer - cy on . . us.



A - gnus De - i, qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.
Lamb of God, . . you take away the sin of the world; grant . . us . . . peace.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

LORD GOD OF ABRAHAM FROM *ELIJAH*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

TABLE BLESSING

The people stand as they are able.

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

Amen

NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now you let your ser - vant go in peace; your word has



been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which



you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:



A light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the



glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the



Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,



is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

SENDING

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

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Those taking communion to members who cannot attend services are invited to come forward to pick up their communion kits.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people are seated.

BLESSING

The people stand as they are able.

Beloved,

we are God's own people,

holy, washed, renewed.

God bless you and keep you,

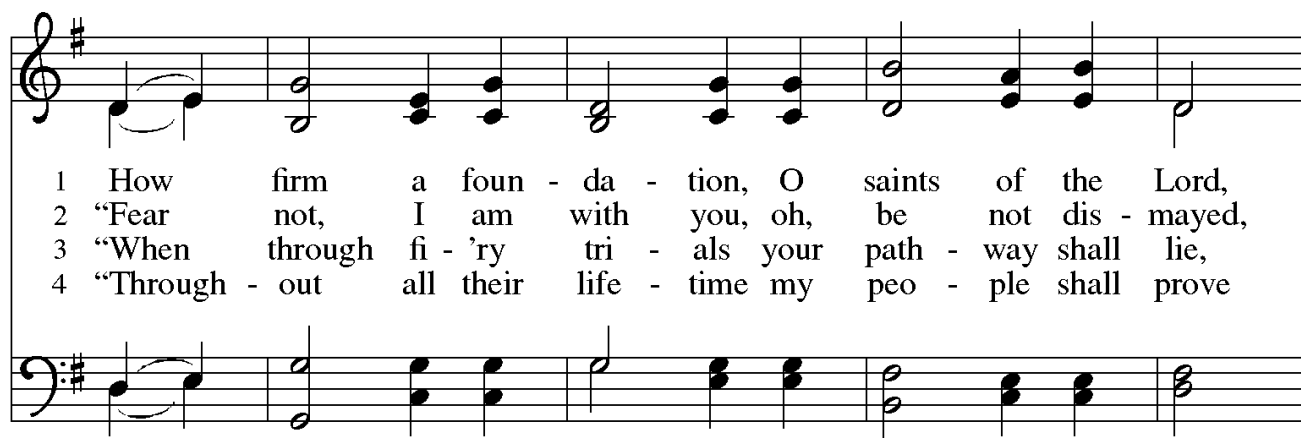
shower you with mercy,

fill you with courage,

and + give you peace. **Amen.**

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ELEGY

C.H.H. PARRY

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - *preaching/presiding*

August Anderson, Seth Salmon - *acolytes*

Tom Blomquist - *assisting minister*

Donna Cordes - *lector*

Carey Henderson - *communion assistant*

Michelle Widmer - *prayer station*

Tim O'Brien - *Director of Music*

Austin Haller - *Organist & Associate Director of Music*

St. Martin's Choir

Jenny Ohrstrom, June Julian - *soprano*

Katherine Altobello O'Brien, *mezzo-soprano*

Evan Brown - *tenor*

Anthony Ashley, Gil Zilkha, *bass*

Viera Buzgova - *video*

Mike Kaase - *sound*

Christopher Reddy, Scot Salmon,

Grant Salmon - *ushers*

Tom Blomquist, Bunny Oliver, Janis Ottmers - *Altar Guild*

Michelle Widmer - *Welcome Center*

Bunny Oliver - *fellowship snacks*