



Welcome to  
**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

740 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Office: (907) 586-2380

[rlcoffice@ak.net](mailto:rlcoffice@ak.net)

Pastor: (907) 885-6824 (voice only)

[rlcpastor@ak.net](mailto:rlcpastor@ak.net)

(808) 782-6653 (text and voice)

[www.rlcjuneau.org](http://www.rlcjuneau.org)

[www.rlclive.org](http://www.rlclive.org)



**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.*

**PRELUDE**



## **GATHERING**

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

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;  
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break - ing of the bread,  
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.  
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,  
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,  
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.  
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.  
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker  
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

## 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



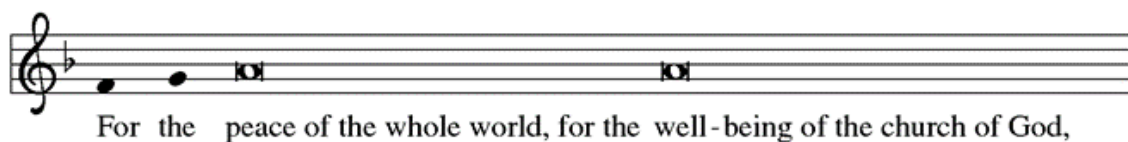
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



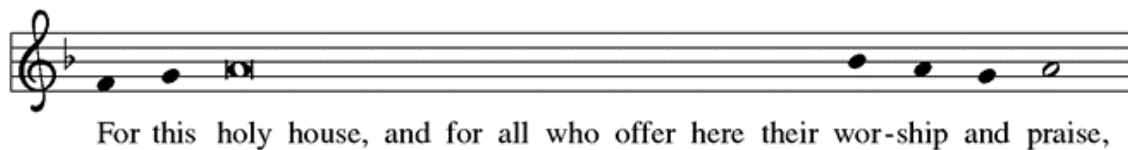
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy 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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

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

lu - ia, 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 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



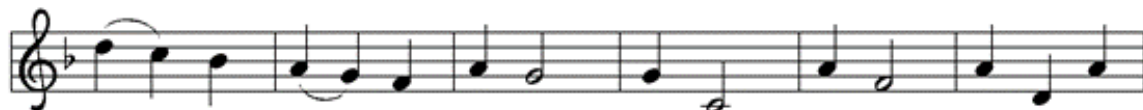
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



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

*Final refrain*



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, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24**

*Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.*

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.  
I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;  
I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,  
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.  
Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,  
I make high the low tree;  
I dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish.  
I the LORD have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

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

**PSALM: 92:1-4, 12-15**

*The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. (Ps. 92:12)*

- <sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;  
<sup>2</sup>**to herald your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night;**  
<sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and on the lyre,  
and to the melody of the harp.  
<sup>4</sup>**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**  
<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.  
<sup>13</sup>**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**  
<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age;  
they shall be green and succulent;  
<sup>15</sup>**that they may show how upright the LORD is,  
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17**

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.*

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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



## REFLECTION

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34**

*Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

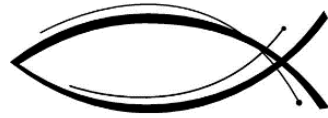
The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Karen Perkins





## HYMN OF THE DAY: Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958  
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol  
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

## 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.



## PRAYER REFRAIN

*Refrain*

Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.

The first line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains eight measures of music. The lyrics are: "Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant."

O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

The second line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains six measures of music. The lyrics are: "O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray."

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians and technical crew. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of wisdom, we pray for those in church leadership. Nourish and guide ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Alaska Synod Bishop Shelly Wickstrom, and Bishop Terry Brandt of our sister synod; the Alaska Southeast Cluster, Pastor Karen Perkins; for Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Anchorage and for all who strive to serve your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.  
**Amen.**

### REPEAT PRAYER REFRAIN



Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.



### PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We greet each other with a gesture of peace. We are incorporating social-distancing recommendations at this time, so a nod, wave, phone call or email are most appropriate. This greeting is a sign of the risen Christ who unites us and calls us to recognize the peace of God in one another.*

### MEAL

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

### OFFERING



## PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the



brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,  
you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.  
Gather what has been sown among us,  
and strengthen us in this meal.  
Make us to be what we receive here,  
your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**



## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

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.**

### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# 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. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,  
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,  
in the harmonious world of your creation,  
the plants and animals,  
the seas and stars  
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,  
you sent your Son to heal our ills  
and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing,  
his body given up,  
and his victory over death,  
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth  
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:  
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, 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**

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table  
with more than enough for all.

Come!

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*All are welcome to the communion table! God is the host and God's love extends to all people. During this period of social distancing due to the COVID-19, few in our community can be present at Resurrection. Nevertheless, there **are** ways for you to participate! We celebrate this holy meal as the community of peace, love and mercy.*

- *We have resources on our website to help you celebrate Holy Communion at home, either along with a live broadcast or at another time.*
- *Pastor Karen can bring the Eucharist to you at home. Please contact the office or Pastor Karen to make arrangements.*

*We would be happy to light a candle in thankfulness, of concern, or in memory of a person at your request.*

## COMMUNION HYMN



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.

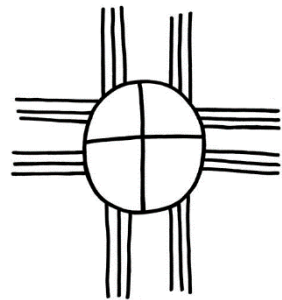
## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**



## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, 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.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,

now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

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

## MISSION STATEMENT

Let us announce together:

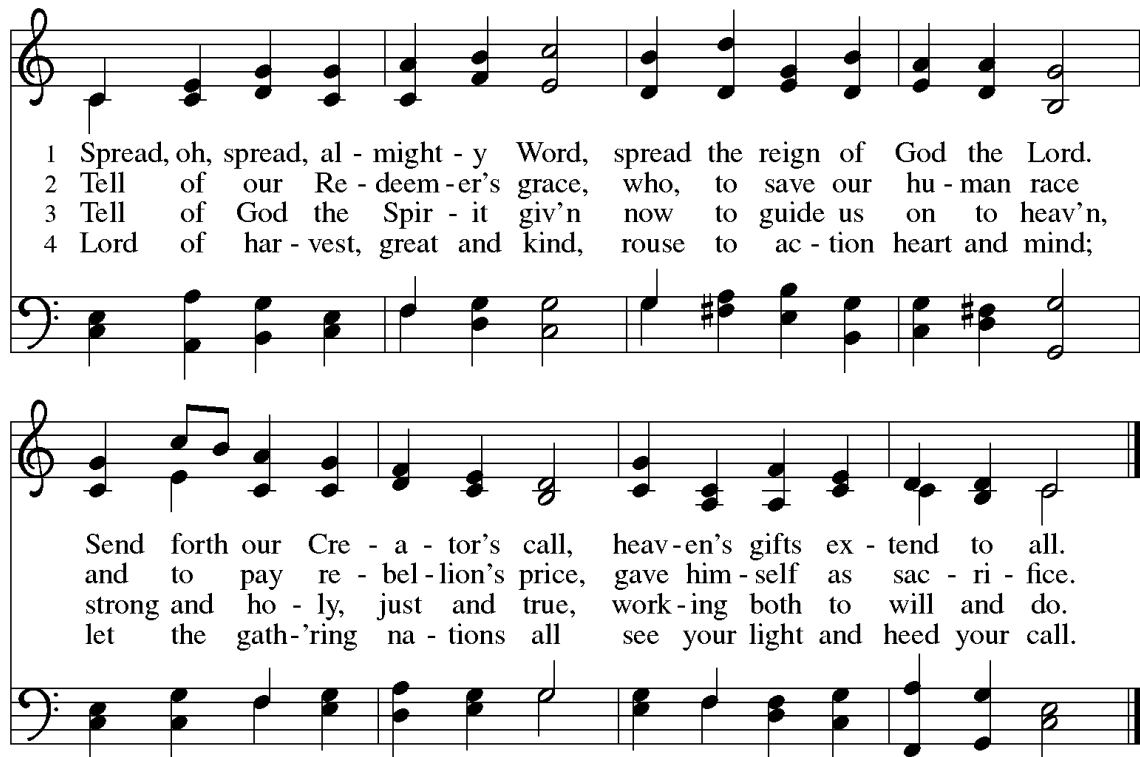
**The mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church is to promote  
spiritual growth in Christ and service to all people.**

## BLESSING

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.  
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race  
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,  
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;

Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav - en's gifts ex - tend to all.  
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.  
let the gath - ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.  
Music: GOTT SEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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