## St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship Sunday, February 21, 2021 – First Sunday in Lent

Prelude - Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

setting by Michael Burkhardt

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### GATHERING

#### **Gathering Hymn - O Lord, throughout These Forty Days**

We gather in the name of the Father ₱ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us confess our sin.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\oplus$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. 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 mercy. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.

The Lord be with you And also with you Let us pray

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## WORD

## First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."



<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.

# <sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame; rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous. <sup>4</sup>Show me your | ways, O LORD, and teach | me your paths. *Refrain* 

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

## <sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love, for they are from | everlasting.

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

# <sup>8</sup>You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners | in your way. *Refrain*

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. *Refrain* 

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ. <sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

# Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

### Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

## Children's Message

#### Sermon

Hymn of the Day - Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

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## **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 INTERCESSION**

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

### A brief silence.

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction (*especially*... *here local environmental concerns may be named*). Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer, especially for Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, JoAnn, Leon, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Debbie, Phyllis, Leslie, Bob, Ellie, Tracey, Fran, Gus, James and Cassandra; Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

## PEACE

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

MEAL Offering Offertory - O Lord throughout these Forty Days

**Offertory** - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

### Offering Prayer

P Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C 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; You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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

Holy, holy Lord, Lord God of powe'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

#### Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

#### **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

## 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.

Come to the banquet for all is ready.

LAMB OF GOD Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Holy Communion will be available in the church parking lot on Sundays, from <u>11:15 am - 12:00 pm</u>

Please do not leave your car. We will come to you and deliver a wafer and wine or grape juice. It will be served to you in a foam bowl. Please take the elements and distribute among those in your vehicle and then dispose of the cups and bowl when you get home.

## **Prayer after Communion**

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

## Amen.

#### Blessing

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.** 

## Sending Hymn - I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Postlude - Our Father in Heaven Chorale from Sonata No. 6

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by Felix Mendelssohn

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**Prayer of the Church** (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Debbie Fullbright, Phyllis Jenkins, Leslie Johnson, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Tracey Dissel, Fran Whitfield, Gus Holshouser, James and Cassandra Wagner

**We keep in prayer** the families and friends of **Audrey Pearson** (who died on February 9, 2021) and **Blanche Brewer Bragg** (who died on February 13, 2021). Both had interments in the St. Paul's Columbarium with family only in attendance.

## **Prayer List Changes** – If you have names to **add**, or **delete at any time** - email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Cary Grant (friend of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Brady Laubert (grandson of Pam and Steve Taylor), Staci Dominick (daughter-in-law of Ted and Diana Dominick), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Michelle Meadors, Tony Blackwell (cousin of Pat Casper), Gad Kainer, Peggy Stevens (by John and Linda Foreman), Nancy Randle (niece of Ann and Larry Grovenstein), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Kenneth and Shirley Craig (by Pat Casper), Blackwell and Miller families (by Pat Casper), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Mark Ahrendsen (friend of Marcia and Bill Wilson), Mariorie Bower (daughter of Doug and Fran Whitfield), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Rufous Coulter (brother-in-law of Marlene Coulter), Rev. Kyle Randle (nephew of Ann and Larry Grovenstein), Cathy White, (niece of Ann and Larry Grovenstein), Jimmy Holshouser (brother of Gus Holshouser), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Steve, Erin, JD, Emmett and Rowan Simmons (Preschool Family), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Marge Taylor (mother of Steve Taylor), Don Weaver (cousin of Marlene Coulter)

**A note from Jacqueline Nappi:** Throughout Lent during the Postludes, you will hear the first movement of Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata No. 6. This first movement is a theme and variation on the tune Our Father In Heaven (Vater Unser im Himmelreich), which can be found in our Hymnal #746. The first Sunday in Lent (Feb. 21) you'll hear only the chorale tune, arranged by Mendelssohn; then the following Sunday, Variation 1; the next week, Variation 2; etc. All variations have the hymn tune in the soprano or highest register, except for Variation 4. This last variation is quite exciting and you'll want to listen for the tune in the pedal.

"Light a Candle" -- Candles are lit for prayer intentions. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. The candle screen and votive candles are in the Narthex of the church, along with wood tapers to light them with. You are welcome to come, light a candle, and pray. If you come after hours or when no staff is in the building, please put out the candle before you leave. Staff will check during the daytimes when they are there to make sure all are put out.

## **Opportunities to Worship (recent changes)**

**Due to cold** and inclement weather during this time of the year, we will discontinue outdoor worship through March 14. We will continue to provide a weekly recorded worship and drive thru Communion at 11 am - 12 noon. **We will switch to a 10 am live Zoom Service of the Word each week in** 

**addition to the recorded worship.** We will monitor the weather and hope to resume outdoor worship on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. – Thanks for your understanding, Pastor Scott

**Pour a cup of tea or coffee and join the Pastor and Vicar for Coffee Hour on Mondays** on Zoom from 10-11. We are looking forward to seeing you, chatting, and catching up. Here is the info: Topic: Coffee Hour with the Pastor and Vicar, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRlgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09 Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 – Password: 292680

**Scott Anderson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Bible Study on Thursday mornings.** Topic: Bible Study - the study of Hosea – Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays. Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGFhUT09 Meeting ID: 946 532 621 – Password: 402561

**Be Kind** – The 'Be Kind' t-shirts and yard signs are now available only at my home. If you want some, just email me: <u>rev.wendywaugh@gmail.com</u>. The T-shirts and yard signs are still free but you may donate to the cost of making them. T-shirts are \$5.50, and yard signs with stands are \$10.00.

**If you have read everything in your house**, stop by the church and pick up a few magazines, or a book or two from our free share book library. There are also jigsaw puzzles. When finished, you may return them. They are located in the atrium near the sign-up credenza.



**February is National Library Lovers Month** and you can show your love for St. Paul's Fowler Church Library by making a special library offering. This offering will comprise the library's total budget for the year of 2021 and will be used to purchase new materials and pay for magazine subscriptions. Any time during the year, you may donate money or materials in honor or in memory of a loved one's birthday, anniversary, etc. The budget for the library is currently at \$100, so donations of any amount will help us provide current materials for your enjoyment. Know that even during these pandemic times, you are welcome to

come to the library to check out books. Please follow our guidelines of face masks, social distancing, and signing in when you arrive and leave. You may browse the shelves, sign the card, and drop it in the basket by the desk. We have an exceptional church library and we invite you to take advantage of it.

**Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links** we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- Devotions <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1</u>
  Vicar Judy Goans is coordinator for the daily devotions. Sign up and send your devotions to Vicar Judy (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org) at least 2 days in advance of the date.
- Wednesday Recording Worship https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-assisting Tasks include Assisting Minister, Communion on Sunday, and Lector - The recording takes place on Wednesday at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary

#### Wednesday Evening Compline Services - on Zoom, 7:00 pm

Please mark your calendars for our Wednesday evening Compline services, which will begin on February 24 at 7 pm, via Zoom. Our theme is **"The Fast That I Choose,"** based on Isaiah 58. Sermons will be:

- ► Feb 24 Speaking Kindness, Rev. Wendy Waugh
- Mar 3 Feeding the Hungry, Rev. Dr. Sharon Schulze, Parktown Food Hub
- Mar 10 Combating the Sin of Racism, Patricia Casper, Continuing Conversation Group
- Mar 17 Visiting the Lonely, Phil Hart, St. Paul's Calls
- Mar 24 Consoling Those Who Mourn, Deacon Bill Dahl, Growing Thru Grief
- Mar 31 Visiting the Sick and Dying, Rev. Aaron Klink, Hospice Chaplaincy

Here is the Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81426130806?pwd=cjhoeDk5Y1BvWEZZcHBIbEJjVDFSZz09

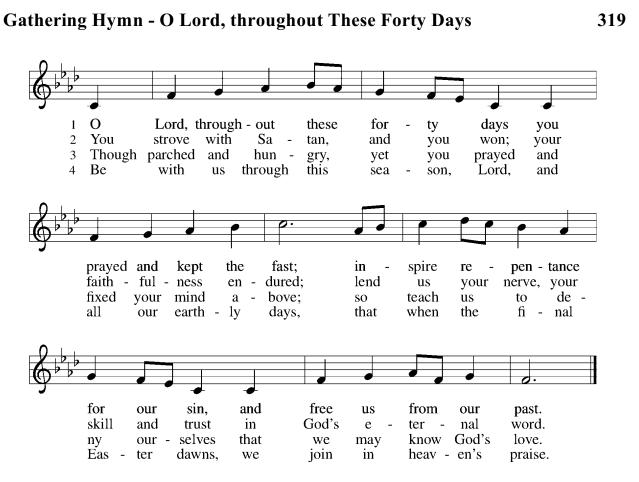
#### **Reparations? Exploring Some of the Questions**

The COVID-19 pandemic has made the wide gaps in financial well-being even more apparent to many of us. Reparations efforts are among some of the remedies that are being proposed to make resources in our society more equitable. Just last fall, in October 2020, the Durham City Council approved a resolution calling on national government leaders to appoint a commission to study ways to "increase racial equity," possibly with a reparations program for Africa-American descendants of enslavement. William (Sandy) Darity, an economist at Duke University, is a prominent leader in this effort. His book, "From Here to Equality," is often studied and cited in conversations about race and economic justice.

On Feb 21 (Sunday afternoon) at 3:00 pm, we'll gather again for more in-depth questions and discussion. Some history of other US reparations programs will be presented, along with a brief "tour" or resources for further study.

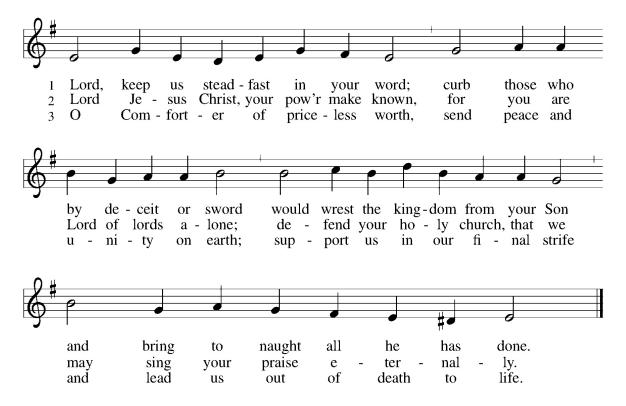
Please join us in studying, listening, and learning about efforts to assure health, safety, and blessing for all of God's children.

Continuing Conversations Group

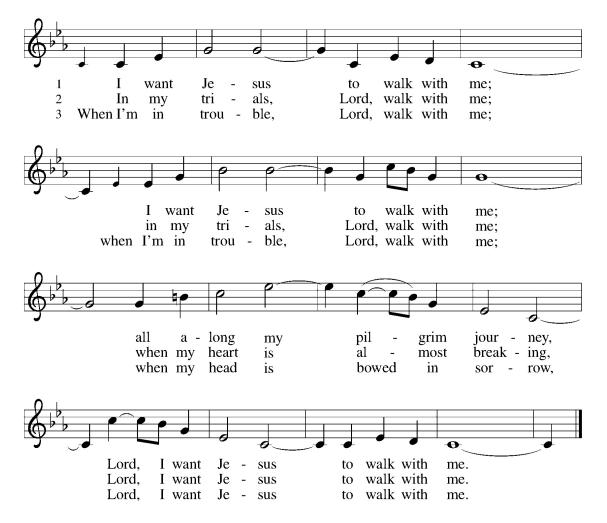


Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543



Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual