

Season of Creation

September 20, 2026 ▪ 9:30 am



Welcome to Trinity Church

We are committed to being a loving and welcoming community centred in the good news of Jesus. We invite you to join us for worship and to take up your place with us on our journey. We'd be glad of your presence and grateful for your company!

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

23 Church Street ▪ New Hamburg, Ontario ▪ N3A 1J1

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Holy Communion

Gathering

Prelude	Thy Holy Wings – <i>Franklin D. Ashdown</i>
Greeting & Announcements	
Gathering Song	Can You Feel the Seasons Turning , page 4
Prayer of the Day	

Word

First Reading	Joel 1:8-10, 17-20, page 5
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Sermon	
Hymn of the Day	When Jesus Came to Jordan , page 9
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Peace	

Meal

Offertory Music	Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart – <i>John Helgen</i>
Offertory Song	God of the Fertile Fields , page 12
Offertory Prayer	
Great Thanksgiving	The Lord be with you , page 13 Holy, Holy, Holy , page 13
Thanksgiving Prayer	
Lord's Prayer	page 14
Invitation	<i>All are invited. All are welcome.</i> Thanks be to God.
Communion Songs	Spirit of God, Descend... , page 15 Thy Holy Wings , page 16
Prayer after Communion	

Sending

Blessing	
Sending Song	God, Bless the Hands , page 17
Dismissal	<i>Tend the earth...</i> <i>Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.</i> Thanks be to God.
Postlude	Praeludium – <i>Johann Krieger</i>

Serving Today

Presiding Minister:	Rev. Dr. Tanya Varner
Assisting Minister:	Krista Straus
Greeter:	Millie Buehlow
Usher:	Dave Mello
Altar:	Kathy Eichler
Musician:	Jamie Courtney
Fellowship:	Judy Hahn-Yutzi

We acknowledge that we gather for worship on the traditional territories of the Neutral, Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga peoples.

Gathering Song

Can You Feel the Seasons Turning



1 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing, winds and waves grown
2 Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing— lynx and ot - ter,
3 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Storm clouds gath - er



wild and strange? Can you feel cre - a - tion groan - ing,
wolf and whale? Can you hear the Spir - it sigh - ing
in the skies. All a - round us signs of warn - ing



fear - ful of the com - ing change: ice - caps melt - ing,
as her chil - dren grieve and fail? Na - ture's poor, the
bid us o - pen fright - ened eyes. Called by God to



o - ceans ris - ing, homes and hab - i - ta - tions lost?
first to suf - fer, pay the price of hu - man greed.
serve as stew - ards till earth's gar - den greens and thrives,



Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Can you count the bit - ter cost?
Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing, beg - ging us to stop and heed?
can we learn in time to lis - ten? Can we turn and change our lives?

⁸ Lament like a virgin dressed in sackcloth
for the husband of her youth.

⁹ The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off
from the house of the LORD.

The priests mourn,
the ministers of the LORD.

¹⁰ The fields are devastated,
the ground mourns,
for the grain is destroyed,
the wine dries up,
the oil fails.

¹⁷ The seed shrivels under the clods;
the storehouses are desolate;
the granaries are ruined
because the grain has withered.

¹⁸ How the animals groan!
The herds of cattle wander about
because there is no pasture for them;
even the flocks of sheep are perishing.

¹⁹ To you, O LORD, I cry,
for fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness,
and flames have burned
all the trees of the field.

²⁰ Even the wild animals cry to you
because the watercourses are dried up,
and fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness.

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

Psalm 18:6-19

I called upon the LORD in my distress
and cried out to my God for help.

From the heavens the LORD heard my voice;
my cry reached God's ears.

**The earth reeled and rocked;
the roots of the mountains shook;
they reeled because of God's anger.**

Smoke rose from the LORD's nostrils
and a consuming fire out of God's mouth;
hot burning coals blazed forth.

**O LORD, you parted the heavens and came down
with a storm cloud under your feet.**

You mounted on cherubim and flew;
you swooped on the wings of the wind.

**You wrapped darkness about yourself;
you made dark waters and thick clouds your pavilion.**

From the brightness of your presence, through the clouds,
burst hailstones and coals of fire.

**You thundered out of heaven;
O Most High, you uttered your voice.**

You loosed arrows and scattered them,
hurled thunderbolts and routed them.

**The beds of the seas were uncovered,
and the foundations of the world laid bare,
at your roaring, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.**

You reached down from on high and grasped me;
you drew me out of great waters.

**You delivered me from my strong enemies
and from those who hated me,
for they were too mighty for me.**

They confronted me in the day of my disaster;
but you, LORD, were my support.

**You brought me out into an open place;
you rescued me because you delighted in me.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

Gospel Acclamation



A cantor sings the proper verse. The alleluias are repeated.

Gospel

Mark 1:9-13

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” ³⁹ But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.

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



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world and suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope
that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We join with Christians far and near to worship God the Creator, praying for
the earth and for all in need.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good
news and our anger at your generosity to others. Nourish us by your grace
to be witnesses to your love.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guide scientists and researchers studying responses to the climate crisis so that all your creation may inspire us to give thanks for your great goodness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Show employers the benefits of equal pay standards for all their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill places of employment with camaraderie, and bring an end to employment disparity. Let leaders and nations resist the temptation to turn to violence and war to solve conflicts, especially the Holy Land, Cameroon, Ukraine, Russia, Congo, Sudan, the United States, Iran, Myanmar, Thailand, and Columbia. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Encourage any who cannot work or who cannot work a full day with the truth that their value comes from your everlasting love for them. Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need, especially Lyle, Steve, Becki, Dorothea, Myles, Stan, Jacob, Mary, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen all those whose labor serves the needs of others in the community, especially those seeking elected office. Inspire all in this congregation to support community endeavors with our time and talents. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

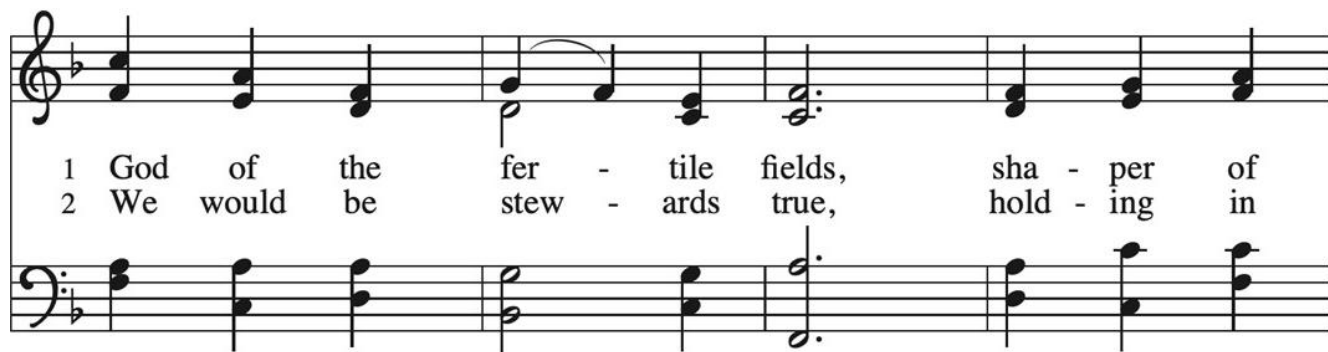
Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, our maker and keeper, we commend ourselves and your whole creation, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Offering Song

God of the Fertile Fields



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

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

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

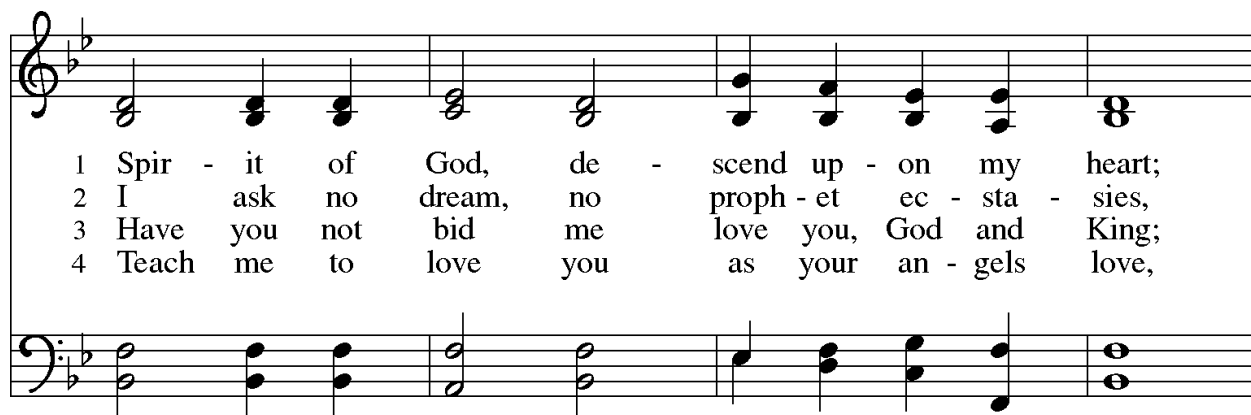
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

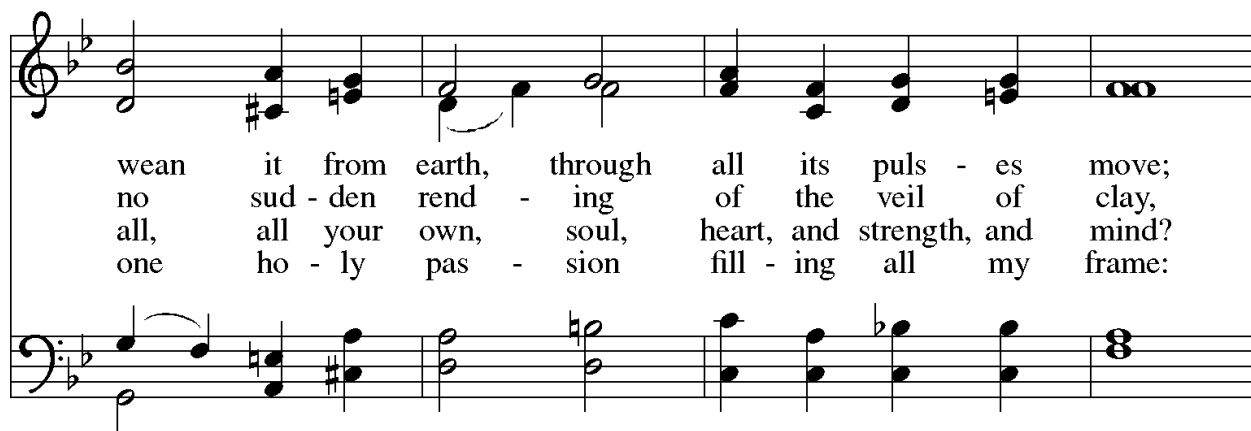
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion Song

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart



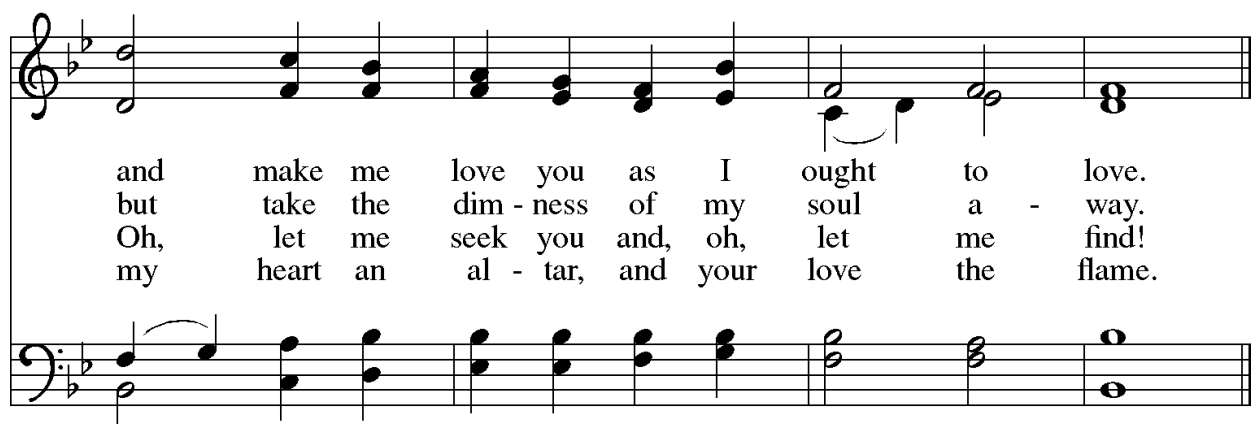
1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



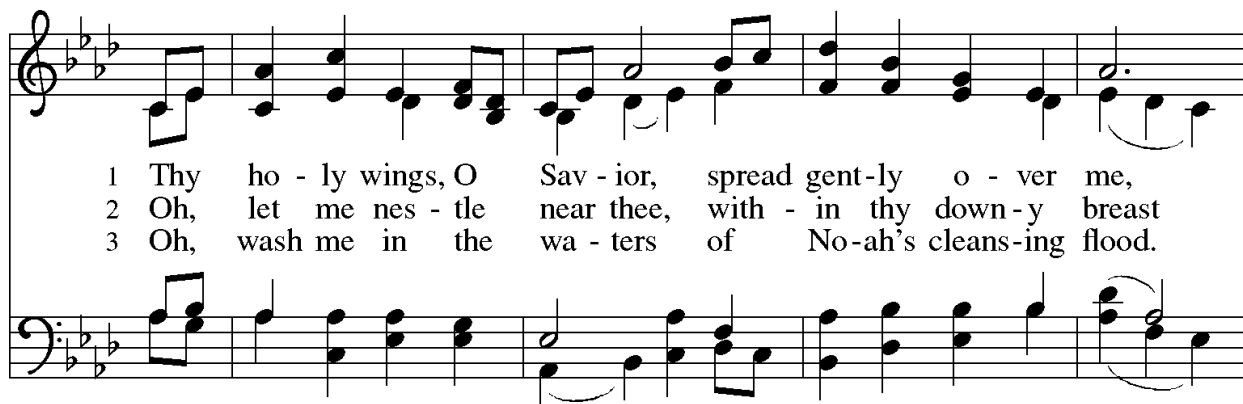
stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



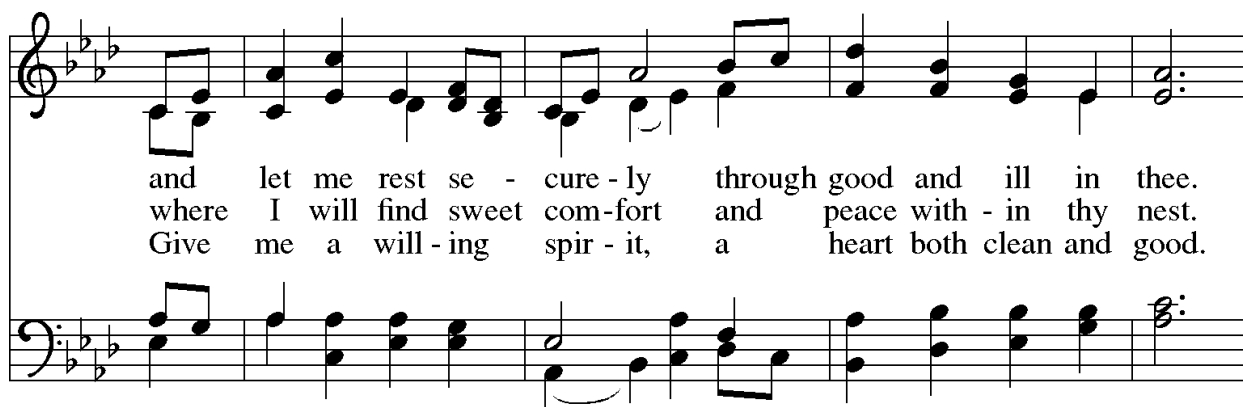
and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Communion Song

Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



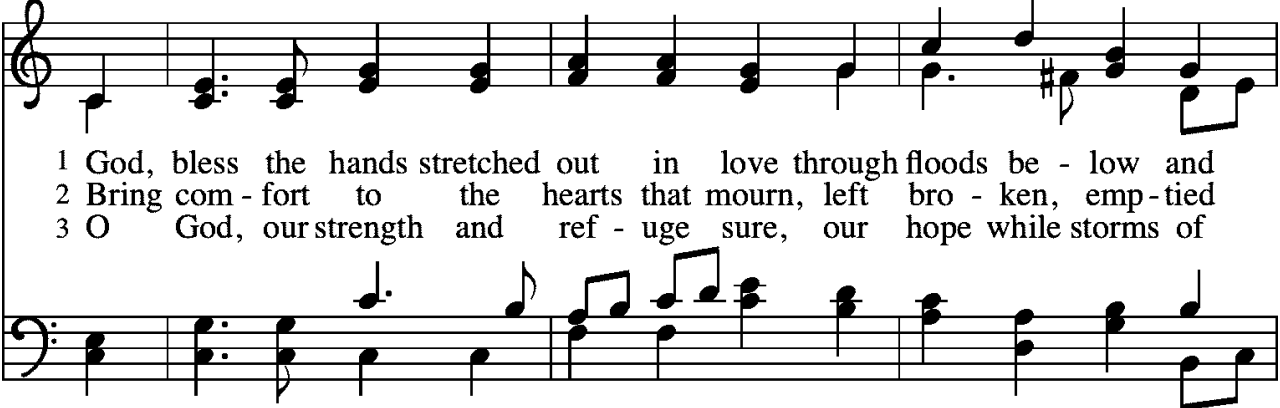
and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



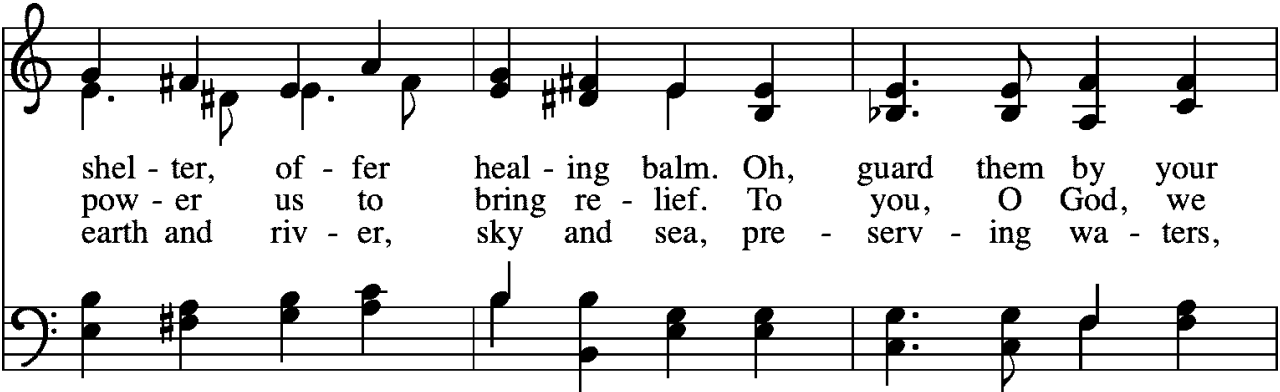
and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
 and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.



1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and
 2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied
 3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give
 by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -
 life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your
 pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we
 earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.
 raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.
 air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

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Thy Holy Wings

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God, Bless the Hands

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Thy Holy Wings

Setting by Franklin D. Ashdown © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Setting by John Helgen © 2025 Augsburg Fortress

+ Sunday to Sunday

20 – Sunday	9:30 am	Hybrid Worship + Season of Creation
	10:30 am	Coffee, Juice, and Conversation
21 – Monday	10:00 am	Monday Morning Meetup
	5:00 pm	Karate
22 – Tuesday	3:30 pm	Visioning Task Team
	4:00 pm	Karate
23 – Wednesday	9:30 am	NVMA Rostered Leaders (St. Paul's, Moserville)
	5:15 pm	Music Together
24 – Thursday	8:45 am	Music Together
26 – Saturday	7:45 am	Music Together
	7:00 pm	AA
27 – Sunday	9:30 am	Hybrid Worship + Season of Creation
	10:30 am	Coffee, Juice, and Conversation



Kitch Radke, president ▪ **Tanya Varner**, pastor
Jamie Courtney, parish administrator & minister of music
Brian Racho, sexton ▪ **Gywin Murray**, emerita director of music