

St. John's Lutheran Church of Ambridge



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Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

The Son of God, Christ Jesus, Makes Us a New Creation

The Lord alone “is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth” (Is. 40:28). He “sits above the circle of the earth” and “stretches out the heavens like a curtain” (Is. 40:22). Yet, His almighty power is demonstrated chiefly by His mercy and compassion. “He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength” (Is.40:29). The only begotten Son of the Father, the very Word by whom all things were made, becomes flesh and takes all the poverty and weakness of our sin and death upon Himself, bearing it in His body to the cross. As He dies for us there, He also raises us up, a new creation, in His resurrection from the dead. Thus, by the preaching of this Word, He heals “many who were sick with various diseases,” and He casts out “many demons” (Mark 1:34,39). And His preaching continues through those whom He has sent, who are “entrusted with a stewardship” to “preach the gospel” (1 Cor.9:16-17). Thus, we are set free by the Word of Christ, and we exercise our freedom in loving service to others.

Bulletin Key



requests those in the congregation stand if they are able



those in the congregation may sit

Additional announcements located at the end of the bulletin.

↓ PRELUDE

↑ GATHERING HYMN **How Firm a Foundation**

ALTERNATE TUNE

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fier - y tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,

F B♭ F Dm F C F

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

C Dm B♭ F C

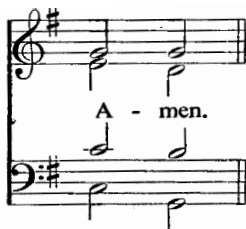
What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be with you in trou - ble to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you, I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

F B♭ F Dm F C F

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume, and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

↑ INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



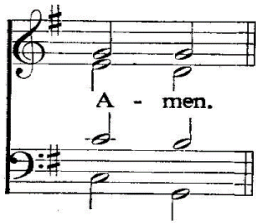
↑ CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Silence for Reflection and Confession

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



↑ INTROIT

Psalm 147: 1-11

P: ¹ Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

C: ² The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. ³He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

P: ⁵ Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. ⁶The Lord sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.

C: ⁷ Sing to the Lord with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp.

P: ⁸ He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills. ⁹He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.

C: ¹⁰ His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior; ¹¹the Lord delights in those who gear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

↑ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

The musical score for the Gloria Patri is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first line of lyrics: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost:". The second system contains the second line of lyrics: "as it was in the beginning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men." Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, with some moving lines in the bass.

↑ THE COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

¶. And with thy spirit.

The musical score for the Collect is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first line of lyrics: "¶. And with thy spirit." The second system contains the second line of lyrics: "A - men." Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, with some moving lines in the bass.

P: O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

The musical score for the Amen is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first line of lyrics: "A - men." The second system contains the second line of lyrics: "A - men." Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, with some moving lines in the bass.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Isaiah 40: 21-31

P: The first lesson is written in chapter forty of Isaiah, beginning at the twenty-first verse.

- ²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
- ²³ who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows on them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
- ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might
and because he is strong in power,
not one is missing.
- ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↓ THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 9: 16-27

P: The second lesson is written in 1 Corinthians chapter nine beginning at the sixteenth verse.

¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control,^[a] lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

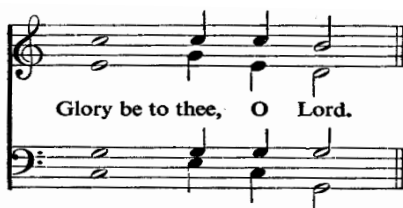
P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

↑ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The image shows a musical score for the Gospel Acclamation. It consists of two staves: a vocal line on a treble clef and an organ line on a bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and the organ line provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the vocal staff. The organ part is labeled 'Org.' at the beginning.

P: The Holy Gospel is written in chapter one of Mark beginning at the twenty-ninth verse.



Jesus Heals Many

²⁹ And immediately he[Ⓜ] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

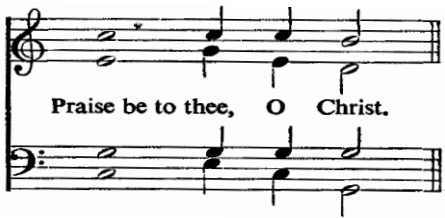
³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

Jesus Preaches in Galilee

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is

looking for you." ³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: Here ends the Gospel of the day.



↓ **THE SERMON**

Sermon Notes;

MARTYN. 7 7, 7 7. D.

SIMEON B. MARSH, 1798-1875

THIRD TUNE

In strict time

1. Je - sus, Lov - er of my soul, Let me to thy bos - om fly,
2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none; Hangs my help - less soul on thee;

While the near - er wa - ters roll, While the tem - pest still is high;
Leave, ah, leave me not a - lone, Still sup - port and com - fort me.

Hide me, O my Sav - iour, hide, Till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, All my help from thee I bring;

Safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last.
Cov - er my de - fense - less head With the shad - ow of thy wing. A - men.

3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy Name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound,
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity. Amen.

Charles Wesley, 1707-88

↑ THE OFFERING HYMN

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of
thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The music features a steady, hymn-like melody with a simple harmonic accompaniment.

↑ THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy Trinity, Your heart abounds with love and generosity. Receive this offering as a sign of our trust in You and our intention to live, inspired by Your Spirit, redeemed by Your mercy, open to the joy of Your presence. Help us to be hospitable to one another, and generous toward Your world. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we pray. **Amen.**

↑ THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God, begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father.
By whom all things were made.
Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from
heaven;
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures.
And ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the
quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son.
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped
and glorified.
Who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

↑ THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

As intercessions are spoken, each one concludes:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

↓ COMMUNION HYMN **Shepherds of Souls Refresh** **ALTERNATE TUNE**

269

WINDSOR (DUNDEE), C. M.

DAMON'S PSALTER, 1591

With dignity

1. Shep-herd of souls, re - fresh and bless Thy cho - sen pil - grim flock
2. We would not live by bread a - lone, But by thy word of grace,

With man - na in the wil - der-ness, With wa - ter from the rock.
In strength of which we trav - el on To our a - bid - ing place. A-men.

3 Be known to us in breaking bread,
But do not then depart;
Saviour, abide with us, and spread
Thy table in our heart.

4 Lord, sup with us in love divine;
Thy Body and thy Blood,
That living bread, that heavenly wine,
Be our immortal food. Amen.

James Montgomery, 1771-1854

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

↑ THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

Congregation. Unison

♫. And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is a single melodic line in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is a bass line in a bass clef with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics "♫. And with thy spir - it." are written below the top staff.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation

♫. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is a single melodic line in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The bottom staff is a bass line in a bass clef with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics "♫. We lift them up un - to the Lord." are written below the top staff.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

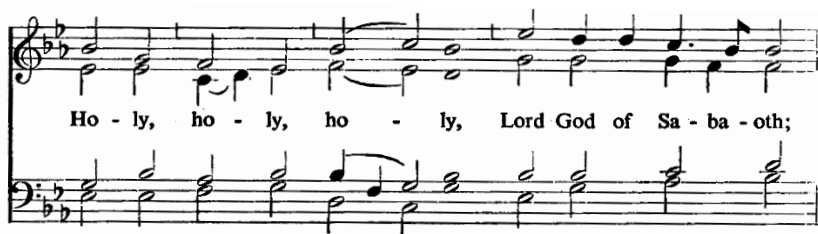
Congregation

♫. It is meet and right so to do.

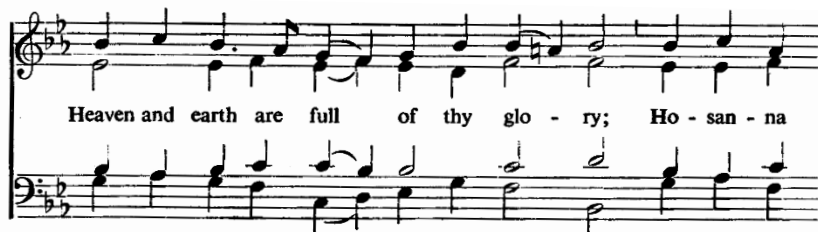
The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is a single melodic line in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The bottom staff is a bass line in a bass clef with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics "♫. It is meet and right so to do." are written below the top staff.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary, that we should at all times; and in all places, offer thanks and praise unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: And now do we praise you, that you did send unto us, your only-begotten Son, that in him, being made man and living among us, you did reveal the fullness of your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; evermore praising you and saying:

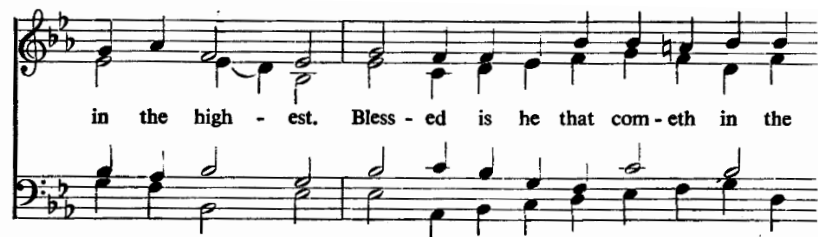
↑ SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth;



Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry; Ho - san - na



in the high - est. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the



Name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the high - est.

↑ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy are you, almighty and merciful God. Holy are you, and great is the majesty of your glory. You did so love the world that you gave your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him might not perish, but have everlasting life; who, having come into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when had given thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped, and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Remembering therefore, his salutary precept, his life giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who partake thereof may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sins, be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints. And unto you O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, world without end. Amen.

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Unison

And with thy spir - it.

↑ AGNUS DEI

Unison

O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin

of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, thou Lamb of God,

that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer -

cy up - on us. O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that tak - est

a - way the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. A - men.

↓ THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Members of the congregation will follow the directions of the ushers to come forward and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord. Young children and those who are not baptized are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

P: The body of Christ, given for you.

C: Amen.

P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

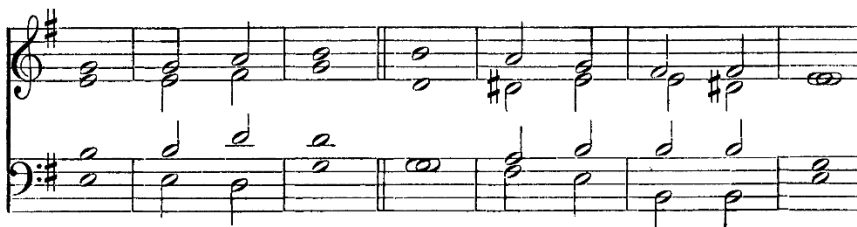
C: Amen.

↑ THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

↑ SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS)



LORD, now lettest thou thy servant de ' part in ' peace:

* ac ' cording to ' thy ' word;

For mine eyes have ' seen thy sal ' vation:

* which thou hast prepared before the ' face of ' all ' people;

A light to ' lighten the ' Gentiles:

* and the ' glory · of thy ' people ' Israel.

GLORY ' be to the ' Father,

* and to the ' Son · and to the ' Holy ' Ghost;

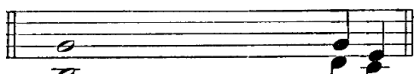
As it ' was in · the be ' ginning,

* is now, and ever shall be, ' world without ' end. A ' men.

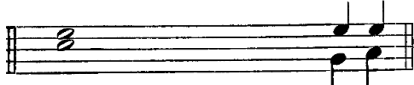
↑ PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Congregation



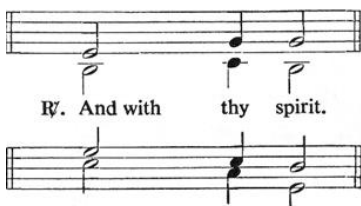
R. And his mercy endureth for ev - er.



P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this Your salutary gift; and we beseech You, of Your great mercy, to strengthen us through the same, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



P: The Lord be with you



R. And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment line with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'R/. Thanks be to God.' are written below the vocal line, with the words 'Thanks be', 'to', and 'God.' aligned with the notes.

↑ **THE BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you, and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment line with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the vocal line, with 'A' and 'men.' aligned with the notes.

↓ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

HERMAS. 6 5, 6 5. D. With Refrain.

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL, 1836-79

Brightly

1. On our way re - joic - ing Glad - ly let us go; Con-
 2. If with hon - est - heart - ed Love for God and man, Day by

hath our Lead - er, Van-
 day thou find us Do - ing what we can, Thou who giv'st the

safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy; Who, if we be faith - ful,
 seed - time Wilt give large in - crease, Crown the head with bless - ings,

Refrain

Can our hope de - stroy? On our way re - joic - ing As we
 Fill the heart with peace.

for-ward move, Heark-en to our prais-es, O thou God of love! A-men.

3 Unto God the Father
Joyful songs we sing,
Unto God the Saviour
Thankful hearts we bring,
Unto God the Spirit
Bow we and adore,
On our way rejoicing
Now and evermore. Amen.

John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75

ATTENDANTS TODAY (FEBRUARY 4)

St. John's Lutheran Church Announcements

Usher Captain	Tim Ceasar
Communion Assists	Fred Kolenda
Lector	Paul Kamzelski
Greeter	Tammy Slavik

Attendance Last Week 29

ATTENDANTS FOR NEXT WEEK (FEBRUARY 11)

Usher Captain	Fred Kolenda
Lector	Fred Kolenda
Greeter	Carmella Kolenda
Communion Assist	Tim Ceasar

Attendance Last Week

This Week at St John's February 4- February 11

Today	9:30 AM	Sunday School/Bible Study
	10:30 AM	Worship
Tuesday	10:00am	Bible Study
Wednesday	6:00PM	Women's Book Club
Thursday	6:30pm	Men's Bible Study
Saturday	9:30am	Children's Kingdom Builders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week will have coffee hour following the church service.

If you are interested in keeping our church outside beautiful, it's time for grass cutting again. Sign up sheet is on the back table.

**MOVIE NIGHT- Saturday Feb 17 5pm-9pm at St. John's.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**

SPRING CLEANING PARTY- Saturday Feb 17 @10am. If you would like to help clean up the church and Sunday School building, please sign the sign up sheet on the table in the back.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Homebound- pray for healing, strength, comfort and guidance.

Barb Cychol- continued prayers as she struggles with the lung cancer.

Carol Lindley- pray for healing and comfort as she recovers from her broken shoulder after a fall.

Moses- (Joyce Ceasar's friend) continued prayers as they search for a kidney donor. Comfort him as he is on dialysis.

Gerrie Meister- continue prayers as she recovers from dental surgery.

Kim Kamzelski- thank God for Kim's success after her medical condition and that she is able to attend worship once again.

JoAnne Philips- prayers for comfort and healing as she recovers from back surgery last week.