

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,  
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 24, 2025  
10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
901 EAST STROOP ROAD  
KETTERING, OHIO 45429-4688  
(937) 298-0136

## INTRODUCTION

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

## GOD'S VERBS

Through the lens of the gospel, today's texts offer a clear identification of God's work. What is God doing? God is reaching out to the bound-up to proclaim release from captivity. God is lifting up the oppressed. God is satisfying the needs of the afflicted. God raises up foundations. God restores and rebuilds, reconciles and sets free. God, whose word can shake the very foundations of the earth, speaks a better word than we've ever heard, or that we could ever speak. Like yeast that's included in bread dough or the seed of a particularly stubborn weed sown in the garden (Luke 13:18-21), when God speaks, there's no going back. The bread will be leavened; the garden will have a mustard bush; and precious daughters and sons of Abraham will be set free. It is God's work and God's activity that Isaiah calls us to be about. Why is the prophet so confident that light will conquer darkness and needs will be satisfied? Because this is already God's work, or as the prophet says, because "the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

These texts focus us on the verbs, the actions, of God. When we're attuned to the verbs of God within passages like these, it might make it easier to see and give witness to God's work and the verbs around us right now.

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*\*\* indicates to stand as you are able.*

# GATHERING

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

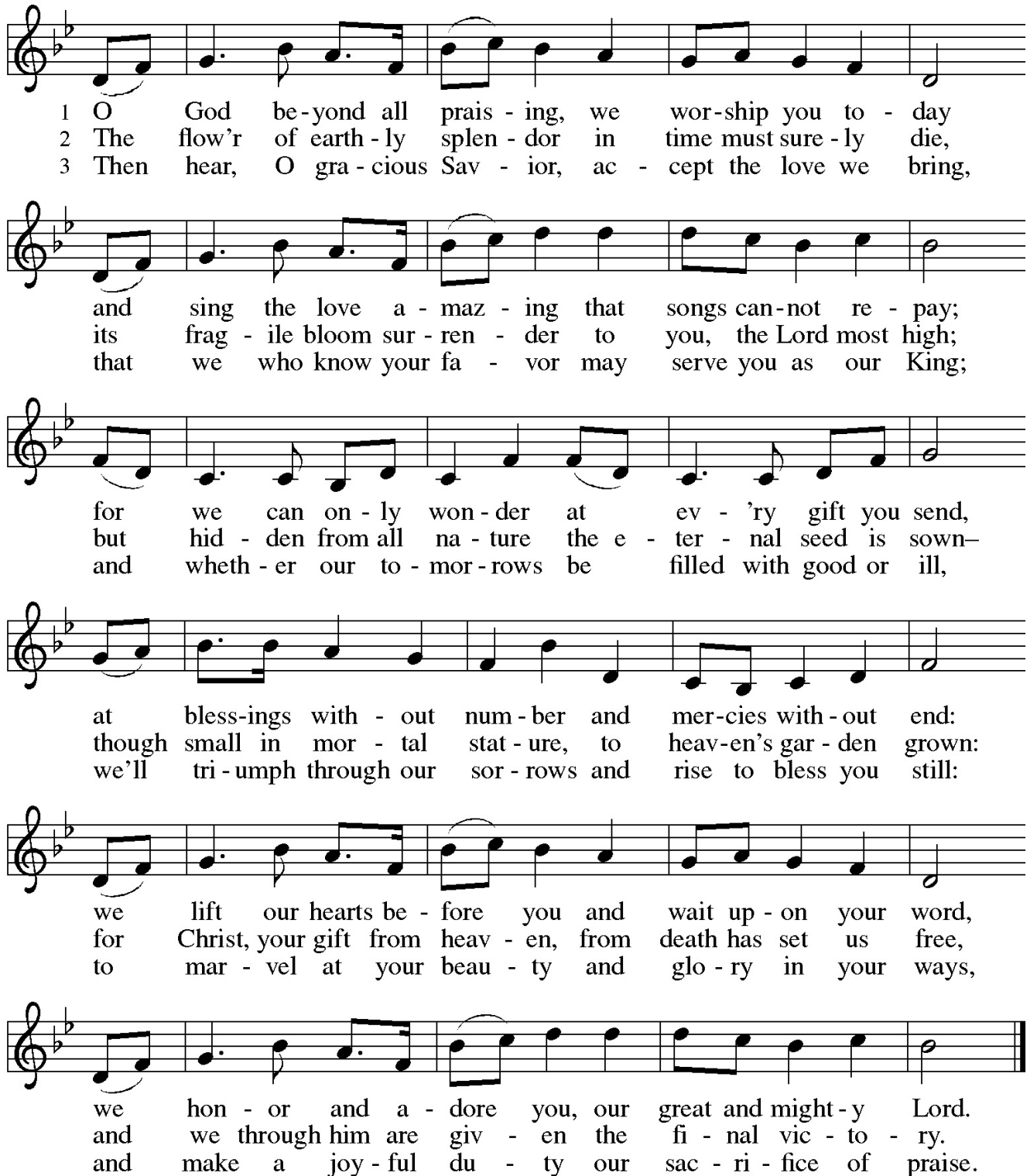
## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Judy Treadway*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

"O God Beyond All Praising"

*From the survey of favorite hymns.*



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day  
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,  
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,  
and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;  
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;  
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;  
for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,  
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-  
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,  
at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:  
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:  
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:  
we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,  
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,  
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,  
we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.  
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.  
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

## \*\* OPENING LITANY

Welcome, friends, to this holy day.

**We come to offer thanks; we come to sing and pray.**

Welcome, friends, to this time set apart,

**A time to remember those we love, and time to recall and celebrate the works of the Lord.**

Welcome, friends, to this table of remembrance and joy,

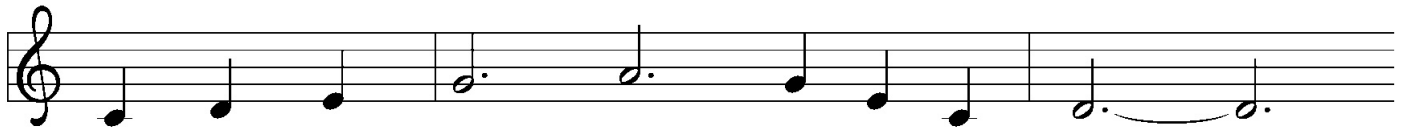
**The table where we are fed, the feast we share with many.**

## \*\* GATHERING SONGS.

"Morning Has Broken"



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

D(no3) G G<sup>2</sup> G D/F# D C/E C/D

O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise

G D(no3) G G<sup>2</sup> D/F# D

you. O God, you are my God, and

C/E C/D G G<sup>2</sup> G Em C/E Em

I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn -

Dsus D Am/E Am/C Am

- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

G G<sup>2</sup> G D/F# D C/D Am/D D<sup>7</sup>sus

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my

<sup>1</sup> G D(no3) <sup>2</sup> G G<sup>2</sup> G Em

days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my

Dsus D Am<sup>7</sup> F C D<sup>7</sup>sus

days, and I will fol - low you all of my days, and

G<sup>2</sup>/D D C/D G

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

**"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"**

*From the survey of favorite hymns*

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

(Verse 2 - All)

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.

(Refrain - All)

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
And like a flood his mercy rains,  
Unending love, amazing grace.

(Verse 3 - All)

The Lord has promised good to me.  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

(Refrain - All)

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
And like a flood his mercy rains,  
Unending love, amazing grace.

(Verse 4 - Music Ministers)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine,  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine,  
Will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.

(Refrain - All)

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
And like a flood his mercy rains,  
Unending love, amazing grace.**

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,  
And like a flood his mercy rains,  
Unending love, amazing grace.**

**\*\* CONFESSION**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✚ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
Amen.**

**\*\* FORGIVENESS**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✚ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen**

**\*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**\*\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING**

Isaiah 58:9b-14

*God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

A reading from Isaiah.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The Lord will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;  
if you call the Sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;  
if you honor it, not going your own ways,



serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;  
then you shall take delight in the Lord,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;  
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM**

Psalm 103:1-8

*The Lord crowns you with mercy and steadfast love. (Ps. 103:4)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits**

who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;

**who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**O Lord, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.

**Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **SECOND READING**

Hebrews 12:18-29

*Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.*

A reading from Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the

heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 13:10-17

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then, there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## YOUTH MESSAGE

### MESSAGE

*Pastor Bob Swanson*

#### **\*\* 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 power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
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**

*Assisting Minister*

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

*Each petition concludes:*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

### **GATHERING OF THE GIFTS**

#### **OFFERTORY**

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## MEAL

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

### \*\* GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

### \*\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples 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."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

### \*\* 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**

The kingdom of God is set before you.  
Eat and rejoice.

***For those communing at home or in the pew:***

**COMMUNION** — *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence*

The body of Christ given for you.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.

*Each person may respond:* **Amen.**

**Communion Statement** ~ If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

## **REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION**

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

## **\*\* TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

## **\*\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Assisting Minister*

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **\*\* SENDING OF COMMUNION**

*Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent.  
The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.*

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### **\*\* BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

### **\*\* SENDING HYMN**

#### **"Trading My Sorrows"**

(Music Ministers/**All**)

I'm trading my sorrows, I'm trading my shame,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.  
**I'm trading my sickness, I'm trading my pain,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.**

(**All**)

**Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;  
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;  
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord, amen.**

(Music Ministers)

I am pressed, but not crushed,  
Persecuted, not abandoned,  
Struck down, but not destroyed;  
I am blessed beyond the curse,  
For his promise will endure,  
That his joy's gonna be my strength.  
Though the sorrow may last for the night,  
His joy comes with the morning.

(**All**)

**I'm trading my sorrows, I'm trading my shame,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.  
I'm trading my sickness, I'm trading my pain,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.**

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;  
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;  
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord, amen.

(Music Ministers)

I am pressed, but not crushed,  
Persecuted, not abandoned, Struck down, but not destroyed;  
I am blessed beyond the curse,  
For his promise will endure,  
That his joy's gonna be my strength.  
Though the sorrow may last for the night,  
His joy comes with the morning.

(All)

I'm trading my sorrows, I'm trading my shame,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.  
I'm trading my sickness, I'm trading my pain,  
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

(Music Ministers/All)

La, la, la...

La, la, la...

**\*\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the spirit.

**Created, saved and gifted by God,**

**we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

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**“W + 2” = WORSHIP PLUS TWO**

**MAKE A COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO WORSHIP EACH WEEK,  
BUT ALSO TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SERVE IN THE CONGREGATION  
AND SEEK OUT A WAY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.**

**YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD**

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# Upcoming Commemorations

## **Bartholomew, Apostle**

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

## **Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430**

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

## **Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400**

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.