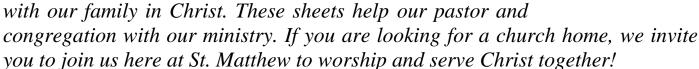
# Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** 

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Arranger, Lani Smith

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

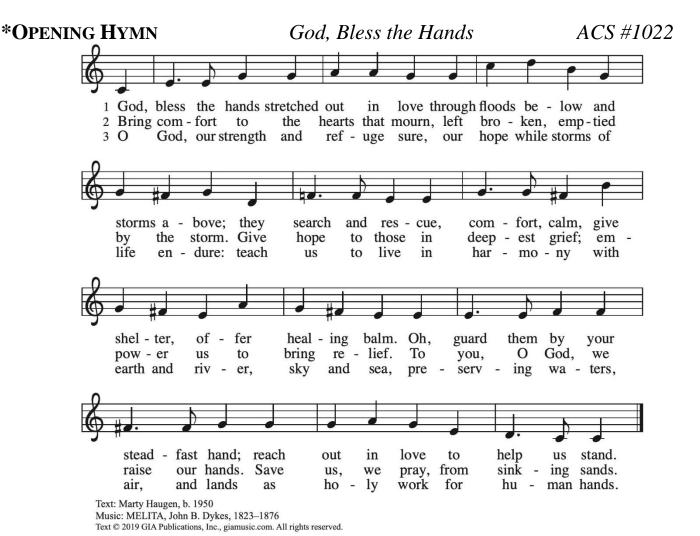
I have called you by name. You are mine."

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

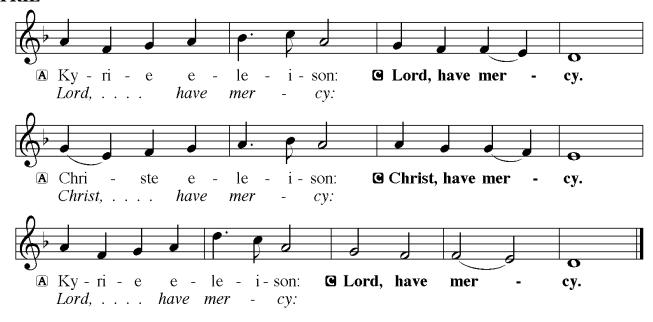
C: Amen.



#### \*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.** 

#### \*KYRIE





#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.
<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—
who can understand it?
<sup>10</sup> I the Lord test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 1 (read responsively)

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
  - <sup>2</sup> Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
- <sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;

everything they do shall prosper.

- <sup>4</sup> It is not so with the wicked;
  - they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

- Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup> If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
  - <sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

## L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*Gospel Luke 6:17-26

The holy gospel according to Luke.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>17</sup> [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> "But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> "Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY Pastor Traci

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

When the Poor Ones

ELW # 725

#### \*APOSTLES' CREED

- A: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C: 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 THE CHURCH

- A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
- A: Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way. Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A: Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. C: Amen.

#### \*THE PEACE

*P:* The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

A: Let us pray ... God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. C: Amen.

#### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*P:* The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

*P:* Lift up your hearts.

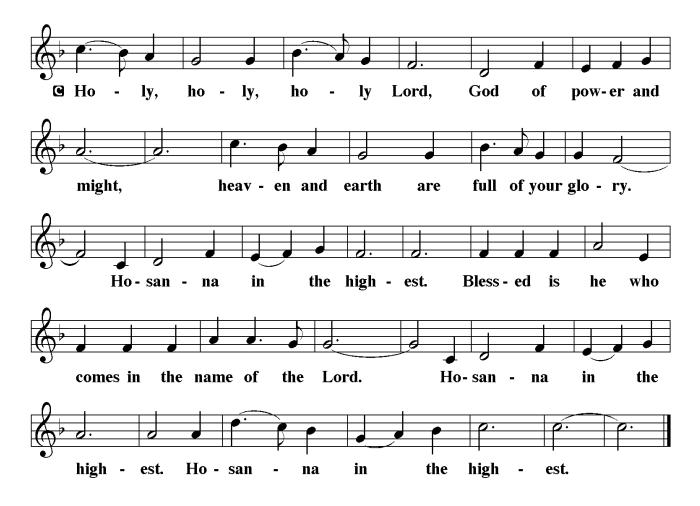
C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### \*PROPER PREFACE

P: 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:



#### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

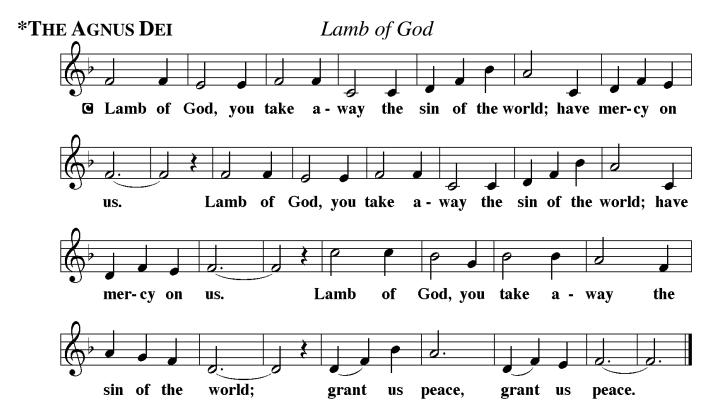
Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. *C*: Amen.

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C: 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

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

**COMMUNION HYMN** 

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW # 479

#### \*BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen.

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, C: Amen.

#### \*BENEDICTION

P: The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. C: Amen.

\*SENDING SONG

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW # 726

\*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope. C: Thanks be to God.

\*POSTLUDE

The Grateful Heart

Composer, Jane Carier

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**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of my father Elwood Smith, who would have celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this month, given by Jane Fagans.

## Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolyte – Gabby Decker

Our Assisting Minister – Steve Oswalt

Our Lector – Gabby Decker

Our Usher – Stanley Smith

Our Altar Guild – Laura Orczeck, Elaine Buchart

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

## This Week at St. Matthew: 814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Jen – Mon.- Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### **This Week Events**

**Today** – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday – Talk-O Tuesday 6:00 p.m.,

La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant, Airport

Thursday – Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.

Sunday – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names will be removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should remain longer or be removed sooner.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Dr. Ramon Burket, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Don Hosterman, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Connie Lamborn, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Nathan, Olga Perlov, Deb Peters, Bekah Ross, Dan Ross, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Doug Smith, Margie Smith, Robyn Smith, Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Joey Tremmel, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

**Away at School:** Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).



Prayers and Christian sympathy are asked for Paul, Amanda, Gabby and Ben Decker upon the death of Paul's father Ross Decker on Sunday, February 9th.



If services need to be cancelled for inclement weather, we will attempt to notify you using email (like we do for the Sunday Bulletin and Messenger) and Facebook. On days when the weather is questionable, please check these notifications before you travel. If you need a phone call instead, please let the office know.

## **Parish Directory**

Please submit changes to your address or telephone number to the office at 814-793-2413 or stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com ASAP so it can be included in the 2025 Parish Directory.

## Offering Envelopes

Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive offering envelopes (or if you would like to have your name/address changed or removed).

## **Office Closure During Inclement Weather**

On days that the Spring Cove School District cancels or delays instruction due to weather, the church office will be closed as well. In the event of an emergency, Pastor Traci can be reached at 814-935-9237.

## **Martinsburg Food Pantry**



Volunteers from Salem Church, along with regular volunteers, will be assisting with the distribution of food on Thursdays, February 6 and February 20, from 9:00 am until 11:00 am.



**The items most needed are:** Beverages, Fruit, Kidney Beans, Pasta Sauce, Paper Towels.

Many thanks to those that helped at the two Thursdays in January: Carla Brumbaugh, Lottie Ebersole, Sarah Detwiler, Nan Grove, Connie Lamborn, Peggy Steinfurth, and Audrey Stern! Also, we thank and appreciate the monetary gifts of \$130. from St. Matthew members!

Thanks and appreciation for your help!

#### Linda Smith

Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the first organizations in and last organizations out of communities affected by natural and human-made disasters. 100% of gifts to LDR earmarked for a specific aid response help affected people in that area until recovery efforts are complete.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

## LOS ANGELES WILDFIRES

Scan to give online



Give through your congregation or make out your check to Lutheran Disaster Response and send it to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Lutheran Disaster Response" or "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

## HURRICANE HELENE

Scan to give online



Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Where needed most" or

"Hurricane Response" on your check's memo line.



## **3rd Annual St. Patrick's Good Luck Game Day** & Baked Potato Bar



Baked Potatoes, Toppings, Drinks & Desserts Provided

**Bring Your Favorite** Board Game Or Card Game

## **Church Messenger**

The February 2025 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home or provide an email address and a copy can be emailed to you each month as soon as it is published. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.

#### **Altar Flowers**



The 2025 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price: \$40.00



Who: Volunteers who want to serve their congregation by

bringing the sacrament to members at home

Where: St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Fellowship Hall)

115 E Penn Street, Martinsburg PA

When: Saturday, March 1st from 9AM to 11AM

Continental Breakfast is Provided

RSVP: Pastor Kevin Shock, Assistant to the Bishop

kevin.shock@alleghenysynod.com by February 25th

Suggested donation of \$5 to defray the cost of your home communion kit



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we

pray, from

for

hu - man hands.

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Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

raise

air.

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

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- 2 Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo, cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar, cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee: Estribillo
- 3 Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda, cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad, cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos: Estribillo
- Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares, cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz, cuando "hermano" le llamamos al extraño: Estribillo

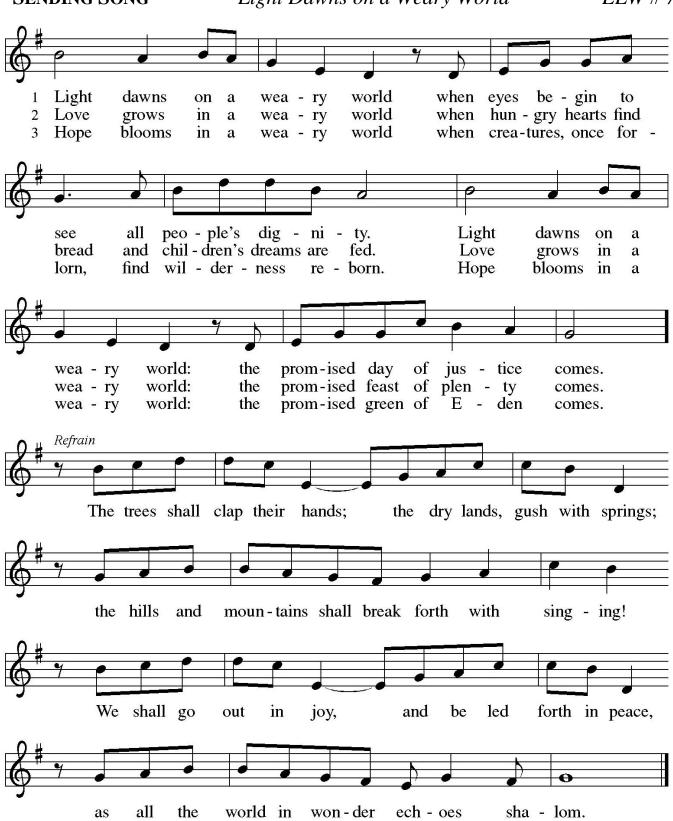


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Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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come, we



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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