# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

**February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025** 



# WELCOME

To our Church Family

We're Glad You're Here!

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#### St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

#### You are welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

#### **Altar Flowers**

The Altar flowers were given today by Dennis Morgan in memory of Paula Morgan.

#### Introduction

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

#### **Readings and Psalm**

• Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Isaiah says, Here am I; send me

Psalm 138

I will bow down toward your holy temple. (Ps. 138:2)

• <u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</u>

I am the least of the apostles

• Luke 5:1-11

Jesus calls the disciples to fish for people

# The Westminster Strike Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Poor Wayfaring Stranger

arr. Eurydice V. Osterman (b. 1950)

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

#### Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.* 

#### Merciful God,

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 lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways.

#### Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

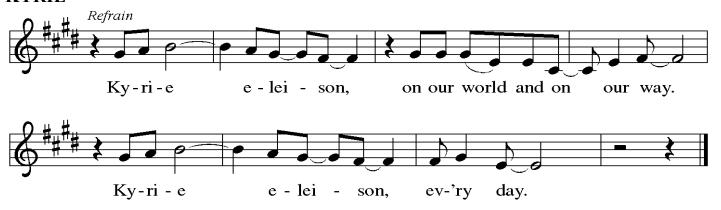
Holy, Holy, Lord, God Almighty! **ELW 413** 

#### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

#### And also with you.

#### **KYRIE**



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain* 

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain* 

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain* 

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain* 

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" [<sup>9</sup> And he said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.'

<sup>10</sup> Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes,

and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed."

11 Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said:
"Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;

<sup>12</sup> until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

<sup>13</sup> Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled."

The holy seed is its stump.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm: Psalm 138



I will bow down toward your ho - ly tem - ple.

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart; before the gods I will | sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things. R

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you | answered me; you increased my | strength within me.

<sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD, when they have heard the words | of your mouth.

<sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways | of the LORD, that great is the glory | of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly, perceiving the haughty | from afar. R

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup> You will make good your pur- pose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands. R

#### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

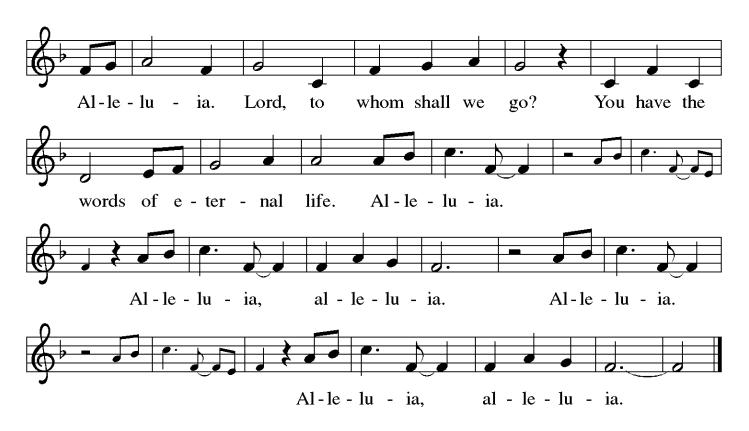
<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **ALLELUIA VERSE**



#### GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

The holy gospel according to Luke the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

**SERMON** Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY Here I am Am, Lord ELW 574

#### **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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After each petition the following response is given:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

#### **ANTHEM**

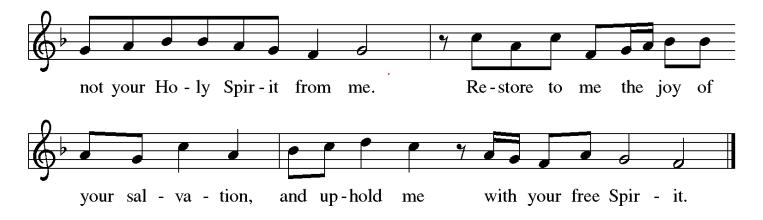
Hush!

Brazeal Dennard (1929-2010)

Hush, Hush, Somebody's callin' my name. O my Lord, O my Lord, what shall I do? I'm so glad trouble don't last alway. O my Lord, O my Lord, what shall I do? I'm so glad I got my 'ligion in time. O my Lord, O my Lord, what shall I do? Soon one morning, death come creepin' in my room. O my Lord, O my Lord, what shall I do?

#### **OFFERTORY**





#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

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.

Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

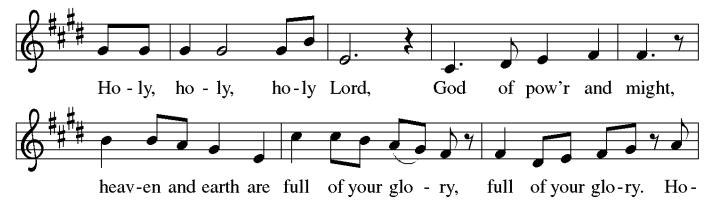
Lift up your hearts.

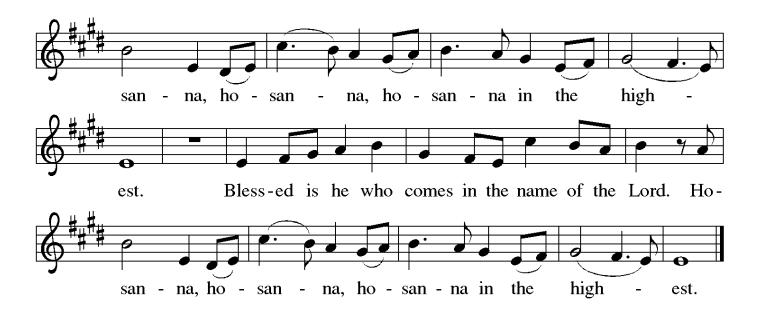
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, .....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**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

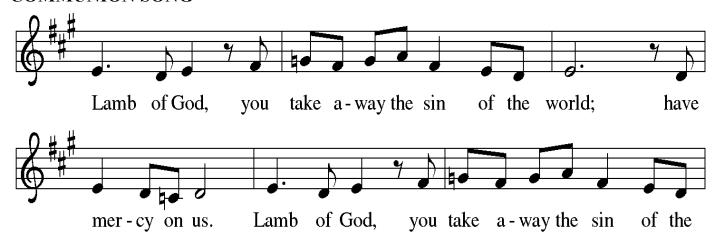
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

#### **COMMUNION SONG**





world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



**COMMUNION** 

Love

Liam Teague (b. 1975)

Eleanor Manes, steelpan drum

#### TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen** 

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### 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,

Amen.

**SENDING HYMN** 

In Christ, Called to Baptize

**ELW 575** 

#### **BLESSING**

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

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Arietta

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

#### In our prayers today we will remember

Jay Danielson, Ralph Buster, Dan Lint, Jo Schweitzer, Rich Sadler, Chrissy Sturtz, Shirley Douglas, Matt Moore, Amy Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Mark King, Rick Theiss, Ariane Roberts.

#### **Music Notes**

Eurydice V. Osterman is a Fulbright scholar, author and composer. She attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan (BM, MM) and The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa (DMA in Composition—the first female and African American to graduate with this degree), studying with the late Harry Phillips. Now retired, Dr. Osterman was a professor of theory and composition at Oakwood University, where she also served as chair of the department and choral director. Dr. Osterman has been a frequent presenter at colleges and universities throughout the United States, particularly in the Southeast, and has conducted numerous music seminars around the globe.

Brazeal Dennard was an American singer, educator, choral director, and musical arranger who made significant contributions towards the preservation and revitalization of the spiritual musical form. His efforts helped moved the African American spiritual beyond the walls of the church to a wider audience.

Liam Teague is a professor of music and director of steelpan studies at Northern Illinois University (NIU), where he also leads the renowned NIU Steelband. Hailed as the "Paganini of the Steelpan," his commitment to demonstrating the great musical possibilities of the steelpan has taken him throughout the world, and he has received many awards from his homeland of Trinidad and Tobago, including the Hummingbird National Award (Silver) and the ANSA McAL Caribbean Award for Excellence. Mr. Teague is also the author of a steelpan method for beginners published by the Hal Leonard Corporation, the world's largest publisher of print music.

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, born in Holborn, London, England, was a composer and conductor who achieved such success that he was called the African Mahler. Coleridge-Taylor's greatest success was the cantata Hiawatha's Wedding-feast, widely performed in England during his lifetime, and rivaled only by Handel's Messiah and Mendelssohn's Elijah in popularity. His musical style was influenced by Dvořák, Tchaikovsky, and Grieg, along with a spontaneity derived from appreciation of African American folk music. He was well received in the United States, where he toured in 1904, 1906, and 1910.

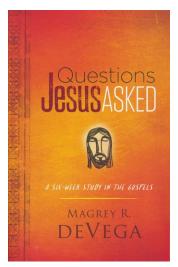
# **Adult Sunday School Class**

God is Faithful - Always!

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust.... (Psalm 71:5a)

Why This?

Ever wonder what in the world God is doing? Have you ever asked - where is God's justice, where is his grace? The Genesis stories we explore in February will help us answer these questions and hopefully increase our trust. Please join us at 11:30 each Sunday to study and discuss Scripture and enjoy the fellowship. We meet on the top floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience.



# **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

Jesus was fond of asking questions, many of which cut right to the heart of what it means to be human. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am?

Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others and guides us in answering them for ourselves. Asking these questions takes courage. Not only do they reveal what Jesus really cares about, they open a window into our hearts. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power, and presence of God in our lives.

Are you ready to answer the Questions Jesus Asked?

#### Women's Lenten Retreat

Prayer: Let's Talk to God March 1, 9 am to 3 pm St. Paul's Lutheran Church

You are invited to attend a Women's Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 1 from 9 am until 3 pm at the church. The theme of the retreat is prayer. Bible study, practical strategies to improve a life of prayer, and worship will be included. The retreat is being led by LaShell Williamson and Patty Long. So that all women might enjoy the full day, you are asked to bring your own light lunch. Beverages will be provided. Reservations are desired but not required. All are welcome.

# **Capital Campaign Report**

| Remaining Phase One Projects | \$377,000 |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Funds raised                 | \$339,270 |
| Remaining funds              | \$ 37,730 |
| to be raised                 |           |

# **Monday Evening Bible Study**

Exploring God's Promises: A Bible Study on Biblical Covenants Beginning January 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

Join us for an inspiring Bible study series as we dive into the Biblical covenants that shape the story of God's relationship with humanity. Each week, we'll explore a different covenant found throughout Scripture and reflect on how these promises reveal God's love and faithfulness.

This study is co-led by Pastor Tina Crog of St. Jacob Lutheran Church and Pastor Ash Welch of Christ Lutheran Church. We will gather in the welcoming atmosphere of Tremont Coffee shop in downtown Massillon (215 Erie St N, Massillon, OH). Whether you're new to Bible study or have been studying Scripture for years, all are welcome to come, learn, and grow together in faith. Bring your Bible and a friend!

#### Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "My Church" by Pushpay. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing STPLC APP.

Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.

To take advantage of all the app's features you

must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, and see the church calendar. You can even give electronically.



# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30-7 pm Fellowship Hall

The Fellowship Committee invites you to a delicious pancake dinner on Shrove Tuesday. Mark your calendar!

# **Community Social Media Pages**

Facebook & Instagram

Search "Massillon Lutheran Churches"

#### **Facebook**

Search "St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon" Search "Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's"

# **Upcoming St. Paul's Cathedral Concerts**

These concerts are FREE and open to all. Your freewill offering is gratefully received.

#### Sunday, February 23, 4 pm: Minnita Daniel-Cox, Soprano

Dr. Daniel-Cox is Professor of Voice and Vocal Area Coordinator at the University of Dayton. She holds degrees from Bowling Green State University (BM) and the University of Michigan (MM, DMA). As creator of the Dunbar Music Archive, Dr. Daniel-Cox has presented her research and recitals in venues around the world. The concert will feature the poetry of Paul Laurence Dunbar, set by composers Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Adolphus Hailstork, Florence Price, Sylvia Hollifield, Will Liverman, and H. Leslie Adams.

## Sunday, March 9, 4 pm: OPUS 216, String Ensemble

Equally versed in classical and non-classical styles, this ensemble has created a niche experience for high-level performances that can cover any genre, from classical to French café jazz, Top 40, hip hop, South American and midcentury American jazz, Irish and American fiddle, original music, and improvisation.

Trained at top-tier conservatories like the world-renowned Cleveland Institute of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Juilliard and others, these musicians make Cleveland their home for its vibrancy, professional development opportunities, arts and culture. When they aren't performing events with OPUS 216, ensemble musicians perform nationally and internationally, from Lincoln Center in New York City, to subbing with major orchestras, such as the Chicago Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, and others. Ensemble musicians have performed onstage across the country with everyone from John Legend to Michael Buble, Brian Wilson, Andrea Bocelli, and more.

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GATHERING HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God Almighty! ELW 413

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HYMN OF THE DAY Here I am Am, Lord ELW 574

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SENDING HYMN In Christ, Called to Baptize ELW 575

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## Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister Rev. Mark Kreemer

Director of Music Dr. Abigail Haake

Assisting Minister Scott Larson

Lector Carol Butler

Greeters Russ & Mary Ann Poling

Communion Assistant Patty Long & Gary Collard

Sacristan Sue Ambrosic

Ushers John & Linda Litman

Carol Marlow, Mark Waltz

Soundboard Jim Johnson

Video/Live-Stream John Stanko

# Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



bless - ed

Trin - i -

ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

in

three

per -

sons,

God

## Here I Am, Lord



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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# In Christ Called to Baptize



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: St. Denio, Welsh traditional

Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press

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