

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2nd, 2025



This is
my Son,
my Chosen;
listen
to him!

LUKE 9:35

WELCOME

To our Church Family

We're Glad You're Here!



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 Vivianne Green in memory of David W. Matthews.

Introduction

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

Readings and Psalm

Exodus 34:29-35

Coming down from Mount Sinai, Moses' face shone

Psalm 99

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD; worship upon God's holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

With unveiled faces we see the Lord's glory as we are transformed

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain

In our prayers today we will remember

Betty Scott, Molleigh Wagner, Anna Lagenfeld, Jay Danielson, Dan Lint, Rich Sadler, Chrissy Sturtz, Shirley Douglas, Matt Moore, Amy Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Mark King, Rick Theiss, Ariane Roberts, and David Fox.

The Westminster Strike

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Chorale

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (1805-1847)

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, † 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

Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair

ELW 316

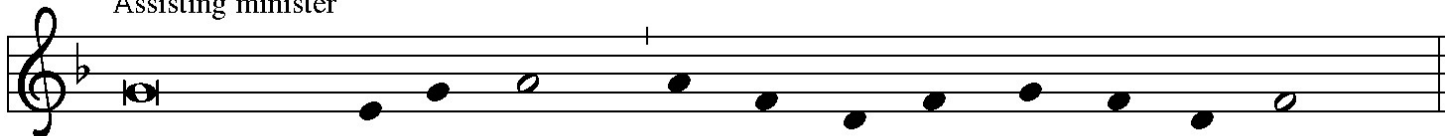
GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



All
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 99



Pro - claim the great - ness of the LORD;



wor - ship up - on God's ho - ly hill.

¹ The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

² **The LORD, | great in Zion,
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;
God is the | Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob. R**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be-¹ fore God's footstool;
God is the ¹ Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon
your ¹ name, O LORD,**

they called upon you, and you ¹ answered them,

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pil-¹ lar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree ¹ that you gave them.

⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered ¹ them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their ¹ evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's ¹ holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the ¹ Holy One. **R**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 9:29-36 (37-43a)

The holy gospel according to Luke the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [

37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. 38 Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. 39 Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. 40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” 41 Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” 42 While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. 43a And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY


Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

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;**



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 your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

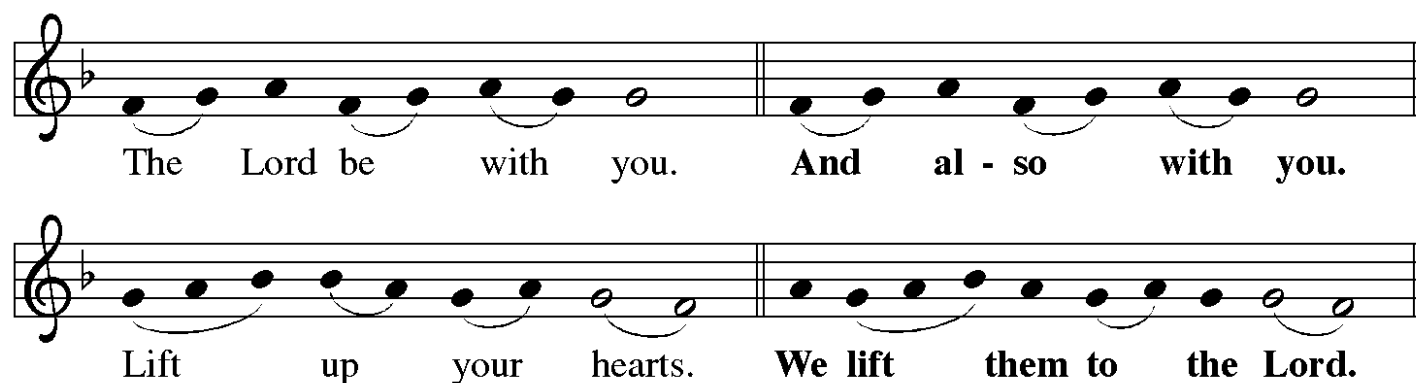
OFFERING PRAYER

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 al-so 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:

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

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC 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

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

COMMUNION

What Feast of Love

ELW 487

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

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318

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

Introduction and Fugue

Adela Douglas-Pennant (1858-1955)

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel was a composer, pianist, and eldest sister of the composer Felix Mendelssohn. She wrote about 500 musical compositions in all, including about 120 pieces for piano, many lieder (art songs), and chamber music, cantatas, and oratorios. Six of her songs were published under Felix's name in his two sets of Twelve Songs (Opuses 8 and 9), while the few works published under her own name include several collections of short piano pieces, some lieder, and a piano trio. Most of her remaining works exist only in manuscript. Stylistically her music is similar to that of her brother.

Caroline Marie Noel (b. Teston, Kent, England, 1817; d. St. Marylebone, London, England, 1877) was the daughter of an Anglican clergyman and hymn writer. She began to write poetry in her late teens but then abandoned it until she was in her forties. During those years she suffered frequent bouts of illness and eventually became an invalid. To encourage both herself and others who were ill or incapacitated, Noel began to write devotional verse again. Her poems were collected in *The Name of Jesus and Other Verses for the Sick and Lonely* (1870).

Adela Douglas-Pennant was born into a titled English family in the mid-19th century. Her father, a baron, was a Scottish landowner in Wales; he was also a politician and played a major role in the development of the Welsh slate industry. Unfortunately, little is known of Adela's life. Her "Introduction and Fugue" was written for the *Organist's Quarterly Journal*, a publication based in London during the 19th century. Only the composer's initials - "Pennant, The Hon. A. D." - were listed in the table of contents for that issue as was the custom of the day when it came to the inclusion of music by female composers. The work consists of two parts - a short, yet stately introduction followed immediately by a four-voice fugue written in the Romantic harmonic language.

Upcoming St. Paul's Cathedral Concerts

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

OPUS 216, String Ensemble

Sunday, March 9, 4 pm

Equally versed in classical and non-classical styles, our 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, our 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.

Ash Wednesday

JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE
WITH LOCAL
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

March 5, 2025

7:00 PM

@ ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
PASTOR TINA CROG PREACHING



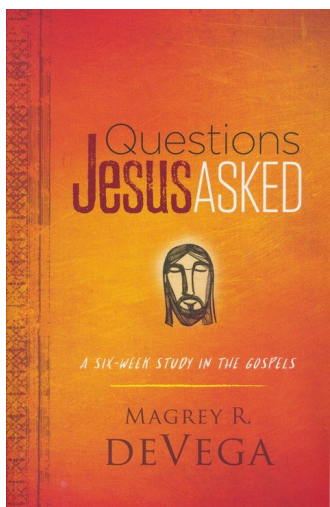
Adult Sunday School Class

God is With Us

I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.... (Genesis 28:15a)

During the month of March, we will continue to study the life of Jacob and watch the ways in which God's presence and promise of keeping guide and protect him. Even when Jacob fails, God's grace is poured out. And so it is with us!

We meet together each Sunday morning at 11:30 for fellowship and Bible study, 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*?

Windows to Wonder: A Devotional Crafting Series for Lent 2025

This Lent, engage your faith through devotional crafting with Windows to Wonder, a creative series inspired by Nicodemus' journey in the Gospel of John. Choose from three free creative options: a mystery cross-stitch stitch-along, a crochet-along shawl, or weekly creative writing prompts. Each craft is paired with a devotional podcast co-hosted by Pastors Tina Crog and Angel Jackson, exploring how we see Jesus more clearly over time.

Deepen your faith with this prayerful, hands-on Lenten journey! All materials are free. Visit www.stitchologycrafts.com/windowstowondersal



Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$377,000
Funds raised	\$348,174
Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 28,826

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.



Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search "*Massillon Lutheran Churches*"

Facebook

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

**Tuesday
March 4
5:30-7 pm
Fellowship Hall**

The Fellowship Committee invites you to a delicious pancake dinner on Shrove Tuesday.

Mark your calendar!

**SHROVE TUESDAY
Pancake SUPPER**

A stack of pancakes on a white plate, topped with a pat of butter and syrup, set against a red and white checkered background.

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Veronica Kreemer
Lector	Lynda Klein
Greeter	Craig Maurer
Communion Assistants	Dennis Morgan & Kathryn Myers
Sacristan	Lynda Klein
Ushers	Gary Collard, Chris Hall, Shane Jackson, & Craig Maurer
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair **ELW 316**
Public Domain

HYMN OF THE DAY Beautiful Savior **ELW 838**
Public Domain

COMMUNION What Feast of Love **ELW 487**
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SENDING HYMN Alleluia, Song of Gladness **ELW 318**
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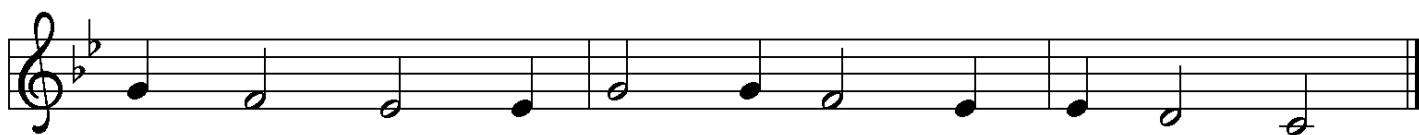
Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and



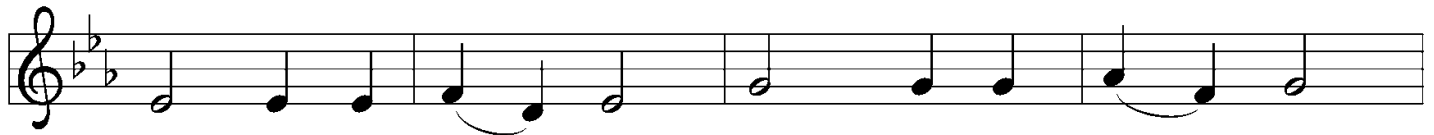
glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us



moun-tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

Beautiful Savior



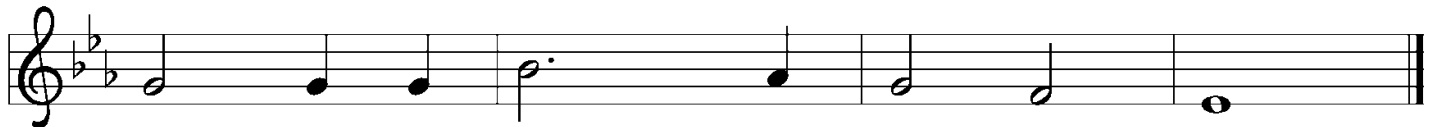
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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Alleluia, Song of Gladness



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880