

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 22nd, 2025



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 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 this week by Vera Keefer in memory of Bob Keefer. The **Throne Flowers** were given Nancy & Dan Lint to the glory of God.

Introduction

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet sent to a rebellious people.

Psalm 22:19-28

In the midst of the assembly, I will praise you. (Ps. 22:22)

Galatians 3:23-29

In baptism, clothed with Christ; no longer Jew or Greek.

Luke 8:26-39

Jesus casts out demons possessing a man of the Gerasenes.

In our prayers today we will remember

Jack Norton, Paul Daily, Rick Thesis, Stephanie Brooks, Judy & Roger Fricke, Jerry Sturtz, Judy Hall, Richard Green, Tina Cotopolis, Izabella Edwards, Randy Balder, Jessica Cascera, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, and Jessie Shaffer.

Prelude: Song Without Words Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847)
Alexandra Piepenbrink, oboe

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ELW 843



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

² I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³ a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;

⁴ who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;
⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶ See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps
⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;
because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.

⁸ Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.

⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 22:19-28



In the midst of the as - sem - bly I will praise you.

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.

²⁰ **Deliver me | from the sword,
 my life from the power | of the dog.**
²¹ Save me from the | lion's mouth!
 From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.
²² **I will declare your name | to my people;
 in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you. R**
²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
 Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
²⁴ **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither
 is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;
 but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
 I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
²⁶ **The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
 Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever! R**
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
 all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
²⁸ **For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
 who rules o- | ver the nations. R**

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ELW 611

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

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

After each petition the following response is given:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Aria

Alice Jordan (1916-2012)



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



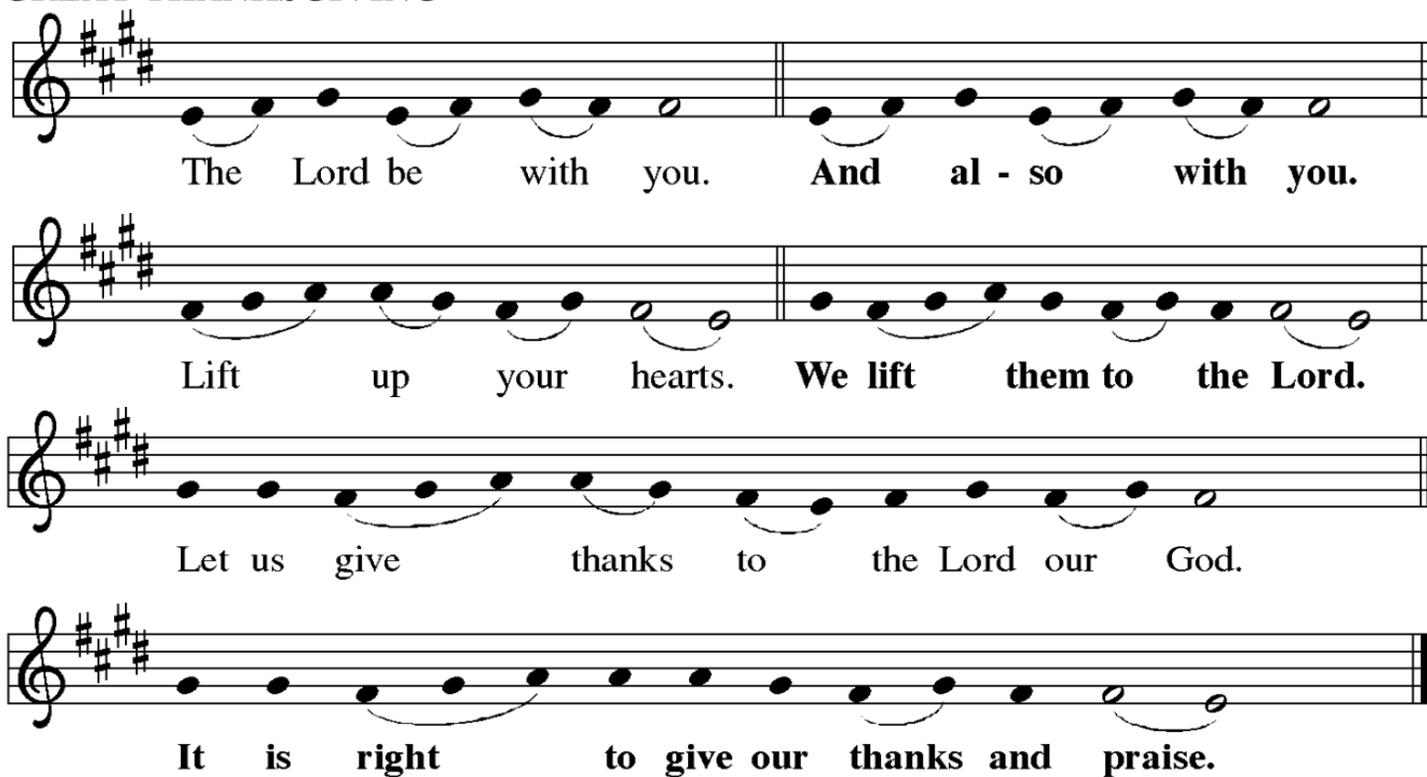
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

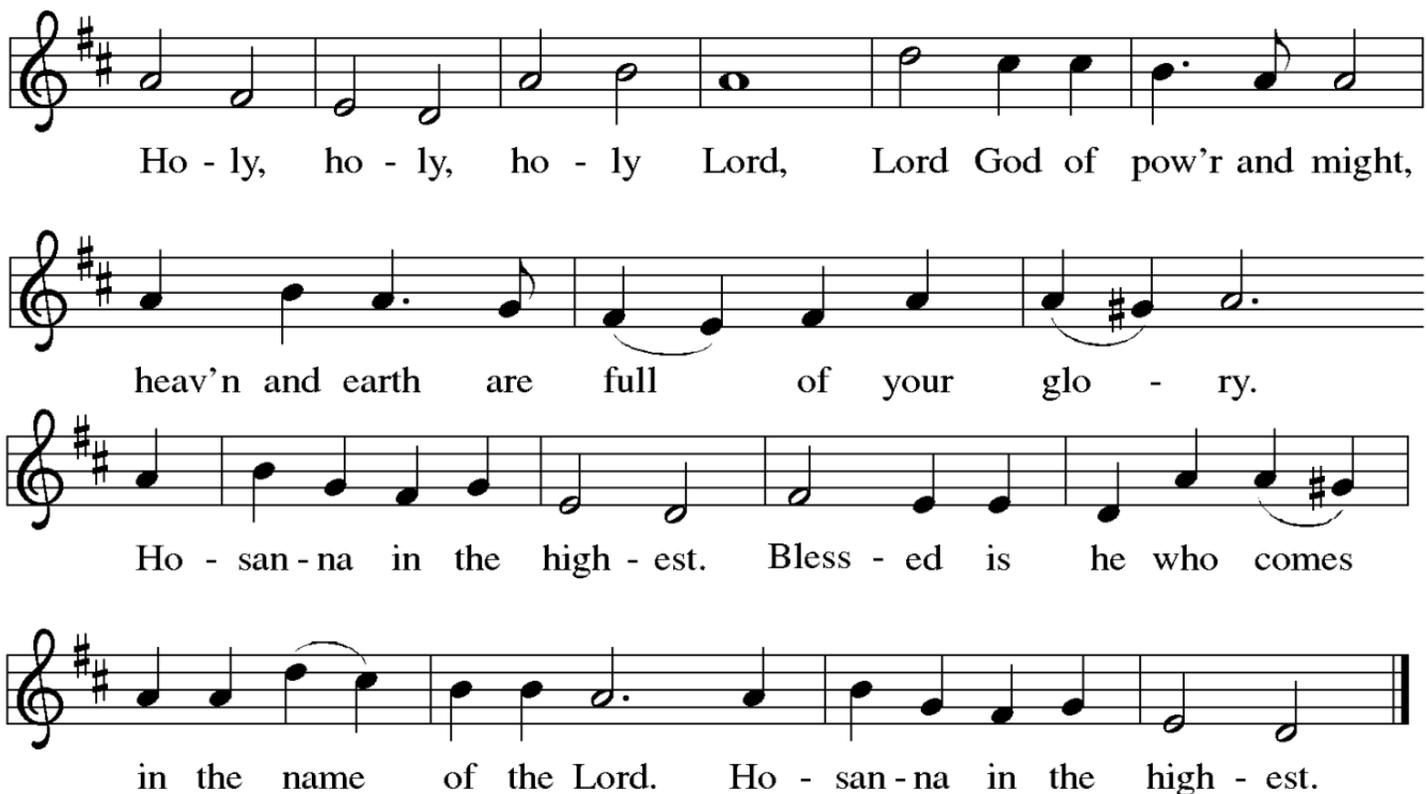
Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

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.... 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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

**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.



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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Mouvement

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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 HYMN: Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughter ELW 445

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.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Concerto on Themes of Pergolesi: II Allegro

John Barbirolli (1899-1970)

Music Notes

Based in Richfield, Ohio, Alexandra Piepenbrink is active as a performer and an educator. Ms. Piepenbrink plays both oboe and English horn and works as a freelance musician. Her resume boasts a wealth of orchestral, band, pit orchestra, chamber ensemble, and church music work. She performs frequently with the Tuscarawas Philharmonic and Singers Company VoxMix Collective and is looking forward to playing/touring in Italy in Summer 2026.

Ms. Piepenbrink teaches private lessons and teaches general music to grades K-8 at St. Leo the Great School in Cleveland, Ohio. She is a graduate of The College of Wooster, where she received degrees in both Oboe Performance and Music Education. In her free time, she enjoys working as a cake and caramel apple decorator at Cold Stone Creamery in Fairlawn/Hudson, collecting antiques such as uranium glass and radium dial clocks, and listening to music from Pink Floyd, The Beatles, and Frank Zappa.

Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$396,278
Funds raised	\$397,148
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Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 0,000

Adult Sunday School Class and Thursday Bible Study Summer Break

Over the summer the adult Sunday School class and the Thursday Morning Bible Study will take some time away from meeting and will reconvene with another series of lessons on September 8. God's blessings to you for a delightful summer.

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.



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"*

School Supplies Needed:

Elementary K-3

Crayola Crayons, 24pack
Crayola Markers
Elmer's Glue Bottle & Glue Sticks
Pencils #2
Large Pink Erasers
Fiskar Scissors – Rounded Tip

Folders with 2 pockets and prongs
Spiral Notebook (wide ruled)
Composition Notebooks (wide ruled)
Ruler
Colored Pencils
Pencil Sharpener

Intermediate 4-6

#2 yellow, wooden pencils
Scissors
Crayons, 24 pack
Eraser (Pink)
Elmer's Glue & Glue Sticks

Colored Pencils
Plastic folders with pockets and prongs
Composition Notebooks
Notebook Paper
Spiral Notebook

Jr. High 7-8

2 pencils
Pens
Highlighters
Colored Pencils
Elmer glue stick

Scissors
Composition Notebooks
Ruler
Plastic folders with pockets and prongs
Notebook Paper

High School 9-12

#2 pencils
Box of Markers
Notebook Paper (College Ruled)
2-Pocket Folders

Single Subject Spiral Notebooks
Box of Colored Pencils
Composition Notebooks
Ruler

**Please return your school supply donations to the church
by July 27th.**

Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.



You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi: **Network:** sound media **Password:** Sound127

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Kathryn Myers
Lector	Marcia Wright
Greeter	Greg & Lynda Klein
Communion Assistants	Kathryn Myers & Barb Palmer
Sacristan	Sue Ambrosic
Ushers	Eric & Carla Myers, Shane Jackson, Mark Waltz
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ELW 843

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HYMN OF THE DAY I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ELW 611

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SENDING HYMN: Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughter ELW 445

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Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-press them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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