

ORDER OF SERVICE  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 2, 2025

PRELUDE

“Priere a Notre-Dame”

Leon Boellmann

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Newsom

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

*We greet one another with signs and words of peace.*

SONG OF CENTERING

“In Love You Summon”

*gently*

In love you sum - mon, in love I fol - low, liv - ing to - day for  
 your to - mor - row. Christ to re - lease me, Christ to en -  
 fold me, Christ to re - strain me, Christ to up - hold me.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Liturgist: Today, the word of God comes to us, in love,

**ALL: inviting us to not be afraid, but to place our faith in God.**

Liturgist: Today, the word of God comes to us, in faith,

**ALL: inviting us to trust in the One who knows us, to place our hope in the One who saves us.**

Liturgist: Today, the Word of God comes to us, in hope,

**ALL:** inviting us to be gracious in our love and in our service to others.

Liturgist: Let us pray...

Liturgist: God our Creator, you lift up those who are beaten down.

Jesus, Brother to the poor, you are in our midst.

Spirit of God, you make all our places holy.

Teach us to welcome and love everyone,

In the name of our three-in-one God,

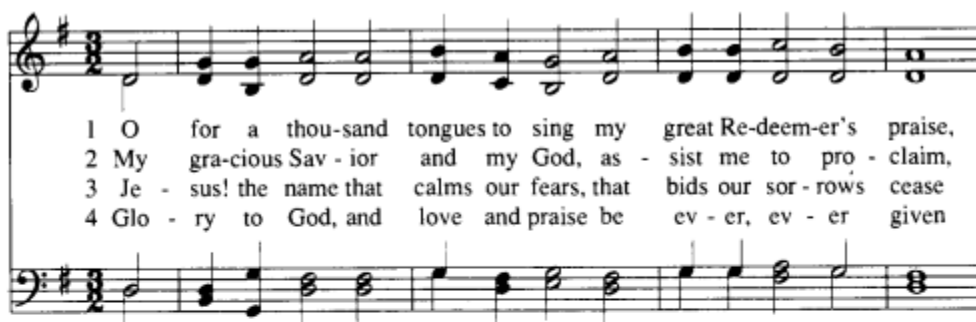
God in community, holy in one.

**ALL: Amen.**

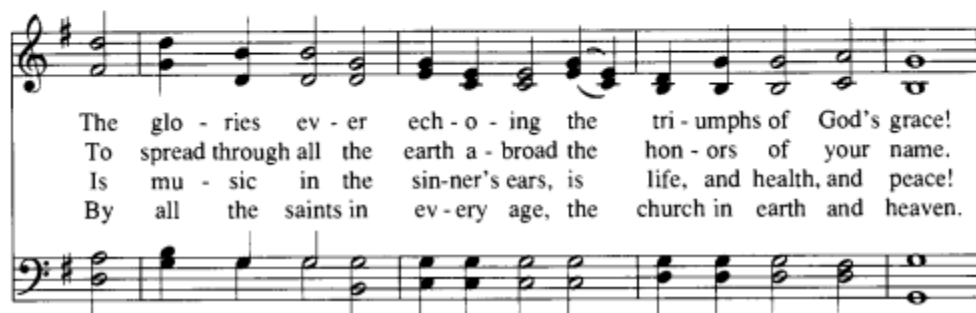
## SONG OF GATHERING

"O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing"

NCH#42



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,  
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease  
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given



The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!  
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.  
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!  
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

*The Liturgist invites the congregation to be seated.*

FIRST READING

Liturgist

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians:

If I speak in the tongues of humans or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can understand all my stories and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trust, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappear.

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; hen I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING/ DISMISSAL

Gospel Lesson

Luke 4:14-30

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
And recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,  
To proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Why don’t you do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

“Truly I tell you” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed – only Naaman the Syrian.”

All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

This is the Gospel, the good news of Jesus.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

# SERMON

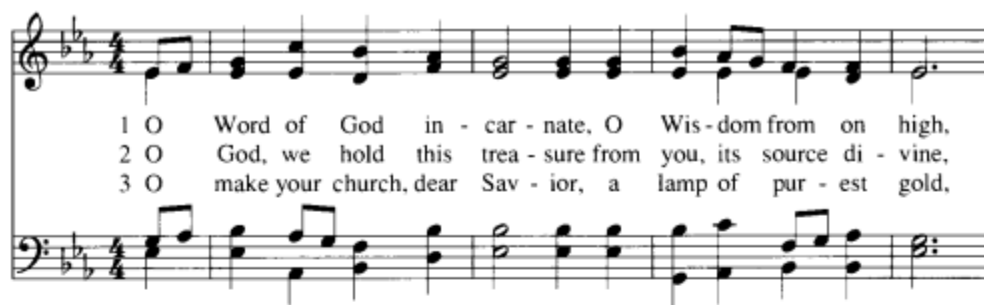
Ain't that Joe's Boy?

Bill Newsom

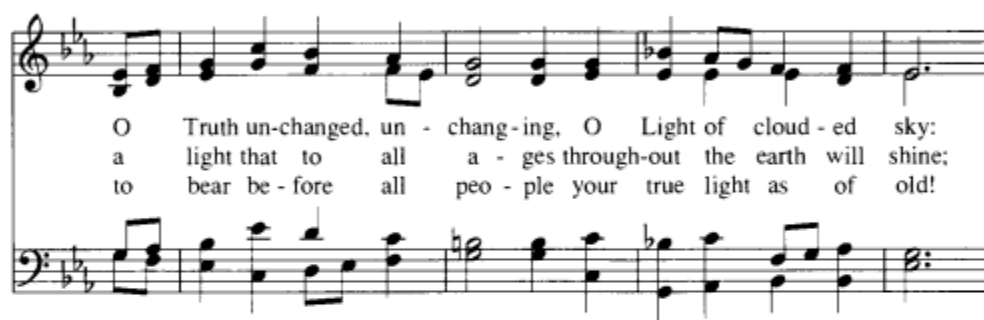
## SONG OF RESPONSE

"O Word of God Incarnate"

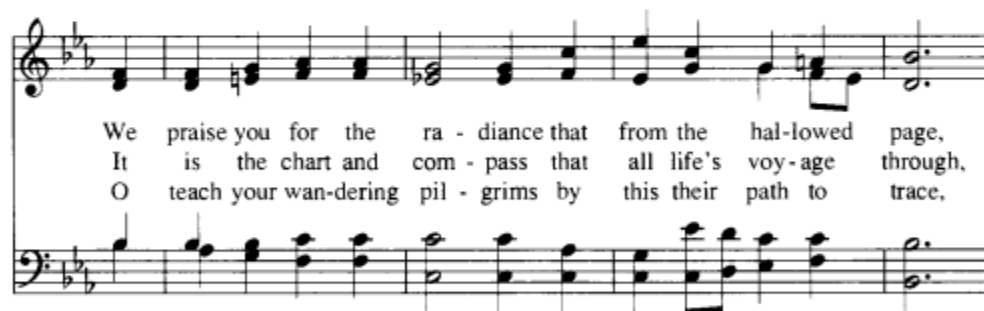
NCH#315



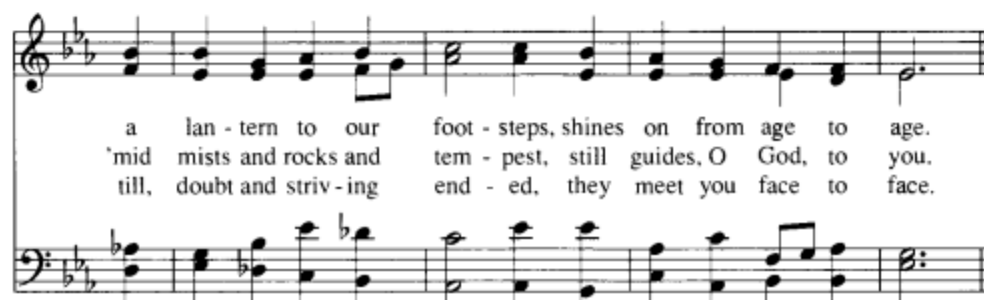
1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
2 O God, we hold this trea - sure from you, its source di - vine,  
3 O make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of pur - est gold,



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of cloud - ed sky:  
a light that to all a - ges through - out the earth will shine;  
to bear be - fore all peo - ple your true light as of old!



We praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,  
It is the chart and com - pass that all life's voy - age through,  
O teach your wan - dering pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
'mid mists and rocks and tem - pest, still guides, O God, to you.  
till, doubt and striv - ing end - ed, they meet you face to face.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bill Newsom

Pastor: ..We pray to you, our mother, using the words he gave us, Saying together,

**Our Father, in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## OFFERING

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

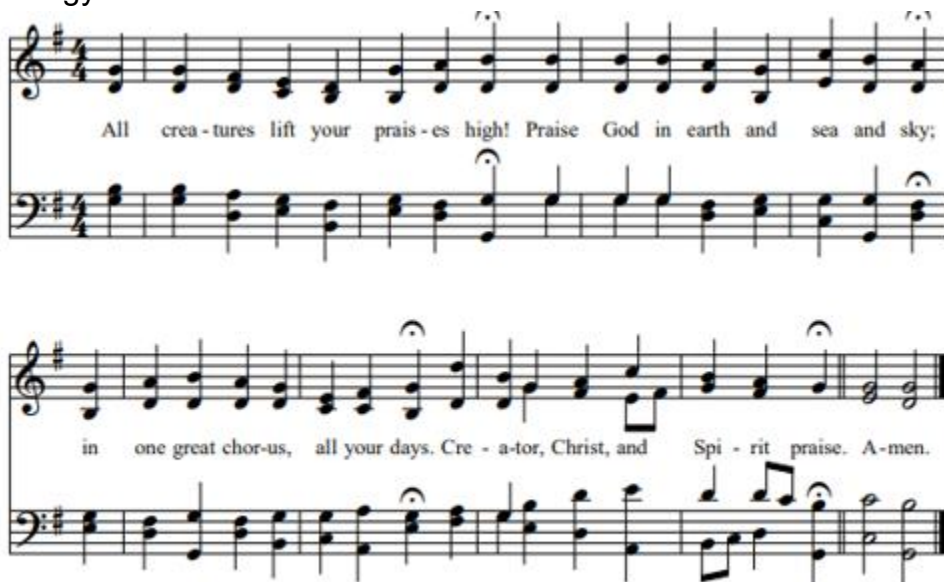
Bill Newsom

*Ushers will come forward to receive the offering.*

### THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOR

## OFFERTORY

### Doxology



All crea - tures lift your prais - es high! Praise God in earth and sea and sky;  
in one great chor-us, all your days. Cre - a-tor, Christ, and Spi - rit praise. A-men.

## CHARGE

Liturgist

Liturgist: Go forth now as God's people.

**People: We will go to offer joy to those in misery, to remember all who have been forgotten.**

Liturgist: Go forth now as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

**People: We will go to offer the best rooms of our hearts to the lonely, to pick up all those who have been knocked down.**

Liturgist: Go forth now as people of the Spirit.

**People: We will go to share a double portion of grace with the empty, to invite others to walk the paths of faith with us.**

SONG OF PARTING

"Let Us Hope When Hope Seems Hopeless"

NCH#461



1 Let us hope when hope seems hope - less, when the  
 2 Faith and hope in love's com - pas - sion will sur -  
 3 Like a child out - grow - ing child - hood, set - ting

dreams we dreamed have died. When the morn - ing  
 vive though knowl - edge cease, though the tongues of  
 child - hood things a - way, we will learn to

breaks in bright - ness, hun - ger shall be sat - is - fied.  
 joy fall si - lent, dull the words of proph - e - cies.  
 live in free - dom, in the life of God's new day.

One who sows the fields with weep - ing shall re - trace the  
Faith shall see and trust its ob - ject; hope shall set its  
Now we see as in a mir - ror. Then we shall see

sor - row - ing way and re - joice in har - vest  
an - chor sure; love shall bloom in Love e -  
face to face, un - der - stand how love's com -

boun - ty at the break - ing of the day.  
ter - nal. Faith and hope and love en - dure.  
pas - sion blos - soms through a - maz - ing Grace.

BENEDICTION

Bill Newsom

POSTLUDE

"Pomp & Circumstance March #4 in D Major"

Edward Elgar