The Beginning of the End



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

THE BEGINNING OF THE END: HOPE FOR THE BEST

November 22, 2026

Settle in with Jesus and his family. Welcome home.

Make yourself at home. Find any open spot to sit and settle in. Our worship service is designed to praise God and enrich your faith. We make it easy-to-follow with everything printed for you in this bulletin. Feel free to stay after the service to get to know some of the people you worshiped with today. St. Mark's is a place you can call home, and we look forward to seeing you next time!

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshiping family and our services include a children's message. Parents, you can help your kids follow along today with the Kids' Questions sheet. A quiet room to help a restless child is in the lobby (to the right as you exit the main worship space).

There's no obligation. Visitors, while our members regularly give offerings as an expression of thanks to God, you're not expected to give an offering. You are our guests; it's your choice. We're glad you joined us today!

Restrooms are at the back of the lobby—women's on the right and men's on the left.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with our pastor after the service and visit us online at stmarkslutheran.com.

Welcomed into the Family of God

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

Amen!

Children of God, let us humbly come before our Creator and acknowledge our many sins to him.

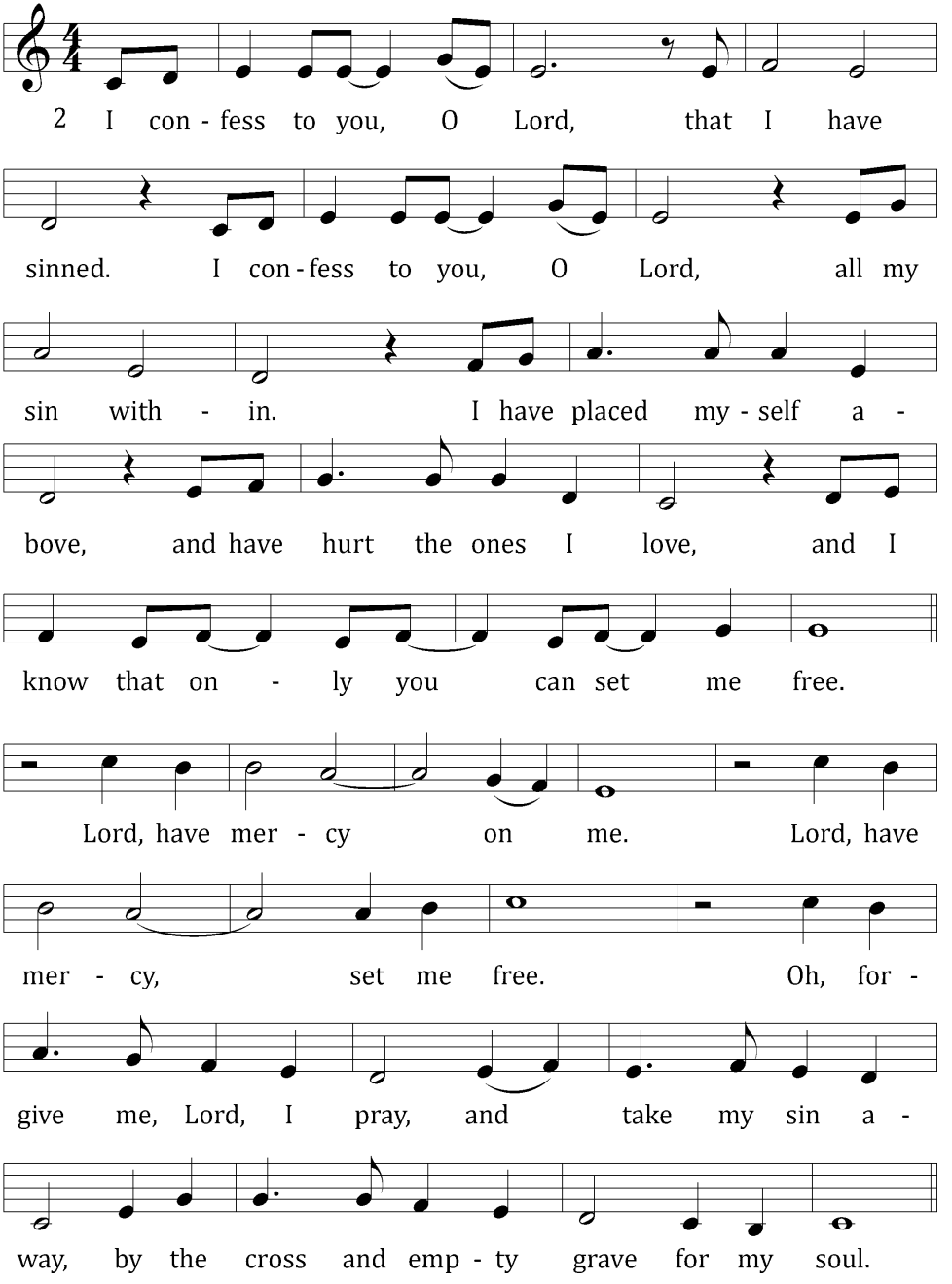
Moment for private confession

Vocalist:

I confess to you, O Lord, that I have sinned.
I confess to you, O Lord, all my sin within.
I have failed to live for you in the things I say and do,
and have fallen short of living in your love.

Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy, set me free.
O forgive me, Lord, I pray, and take my sin away,
by the cross and empty grave for my soul.

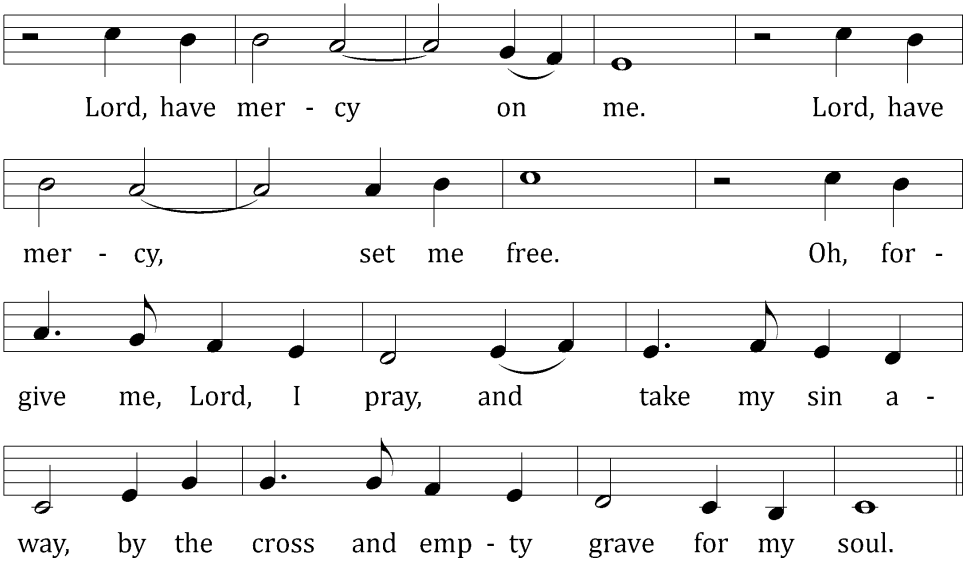
All:


2 I con - fess to you, O Lord, that I have
sinned. I con - fess to you, O Lord, all my
sin with - in. I have placed my - self a -
bove, and have hurt the ones I love, and I
know that on - ly you can set me free.
Lord, have mer - cy on me. Lord, have
mer - cy, set me free. Oh, for -
give me, Lord, I pray, and take my sin a -
way, by the cross and emp - ty grave for my soul.

Vocalist:

Take us back to the water; wash away our sins.
Welcome us, O Father, back to your home again.
Bless your sons and daughters,
And let the feast begin, let it begin.

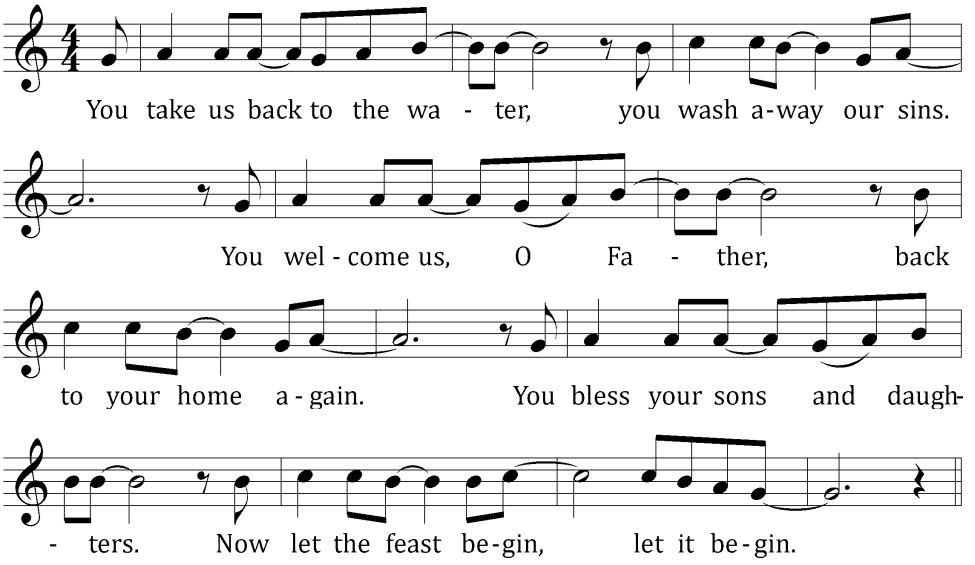
All:



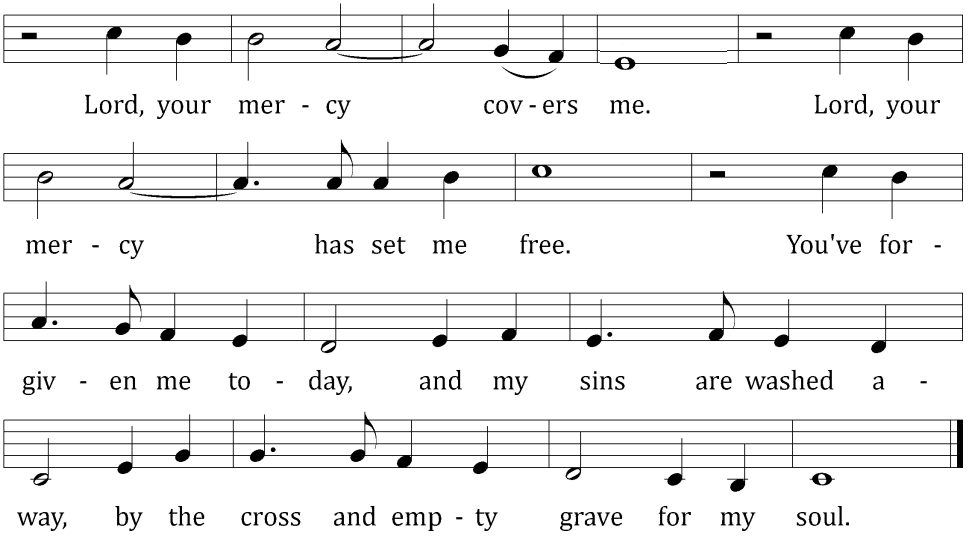
The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. God strengthen you to live in the grace of your baptism all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Amen!

All:



Final refrain sung twice:



Prayer

Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word — Matthew 25:31-46

31"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with
him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32All the nations will be
gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from
another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33He will
put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared
for you since the creation of the world. 35For I was hungry and you
gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to
drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36I needed clothes and
you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison
and you came to visit me.'

37"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you
hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?
38When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes
and clothe you? 39When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit
you?'

40"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the
least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

41"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are
cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
42For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and
you gave me nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not invite
me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in
prison and you did not look after me.'

44"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty
or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help
you?'

45"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of
the least of these, you did not do for me.'

46"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to
eternal life."

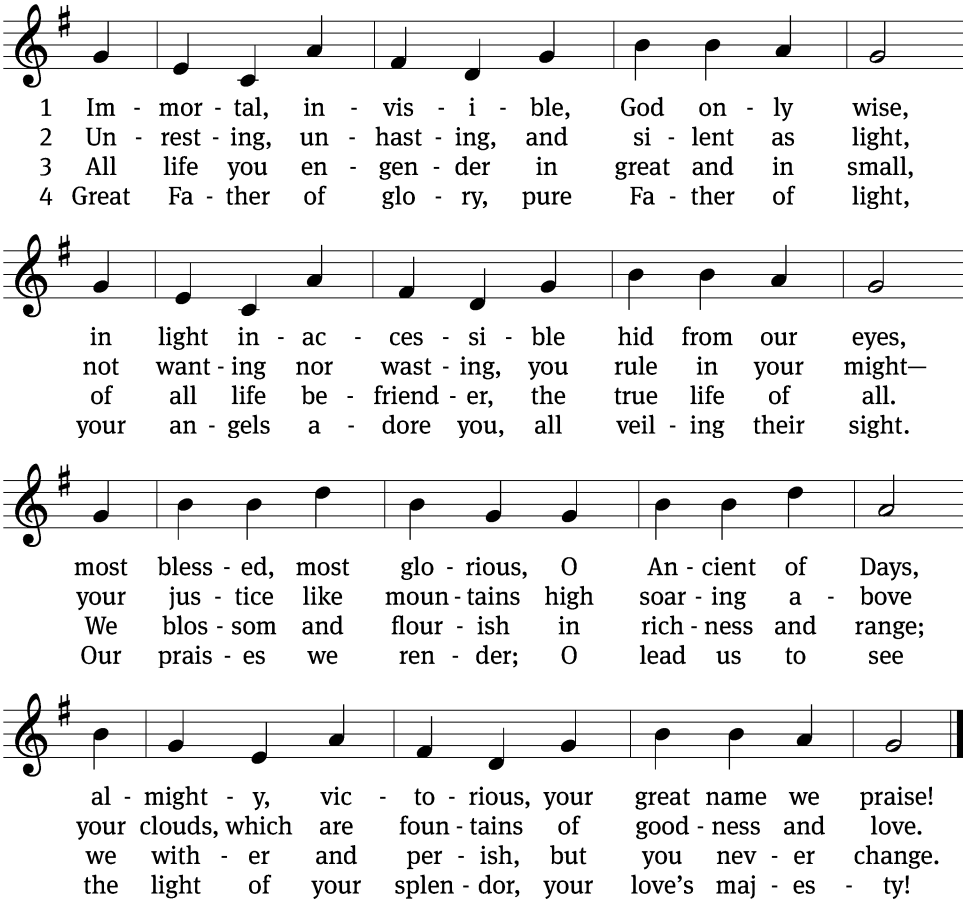
God's Word — 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about
those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of
mankind, who have no hope. 14For we believe that Jesus died and rose
again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have
fallen asleep in him. 15According to the Lord's word, we tell you that
we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will
certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16For the Lord
himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the
voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead
in Christ will rise first. 17After that, we who are still alive and are left
will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in
the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18Therefore
encourage one another with these words.

Children's Message

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Blue hymnal 614



Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, abr., alt.
Tune: Welsh, Caniadau y Cyssegr, Denbigh, 1839
Text and tune: Public domain

Message from God's Word Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

9"As I looked,

"thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.
His clothing was as white as snow;
the hair of his head was white like wool.
His throne was flaming with fire,
and its wheels were all ablaze.
10A river of fire was flowing,
coming out from before him.
Thousands upon thousands attended him;
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.
The court was seated,
and the books were opened. . . .

13"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed."

The Ancient of Days & the Son of Man

Just and Righteous

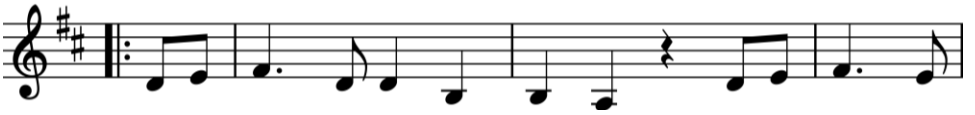
Vocalist:

Day of wrath, O day of mourning!
See fulfilled the prophets' warning:
heav'n and earth in ashes burning.

Death is struck and nature quaking;
all creation is awaking,
to its judge and answer making.

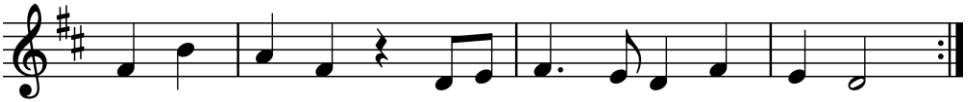
On the cross your dying spared me;
just and righteous you declared me;
I await the joy prepared me.

All:



2 See, the book ex - act - ly word- ed, where-in all has
What shall I in awe be plead - ing, who for me be

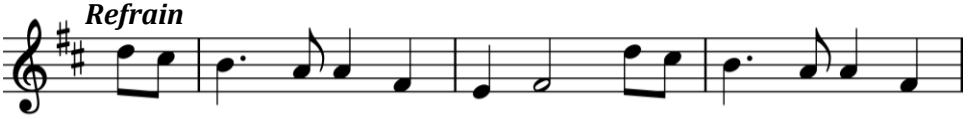
3 King of ma - jes - ty tre - men - dous, who does free sal -
Think, good Je - sus, my sal - va - tion caused your won-drous



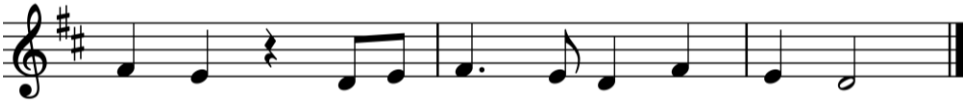
been re - cord - ed— Thus shall judgment be a - ward - ed.
in - ter - ced - ing, when your mer - cy I am need - ing? *Refrain*

va - tion send us, fount of pi - ty, then be - friend us.
in - car - na - tion, made you suf - fer my dam - na - tion! *Refrain*

Refrain



On the cross your dy - ing spared me; just and righ-teous you de -



clared me; I a - wait the joy pre - pared me.

Statement of Faith — The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer follows the prayer spoken by the pastor.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

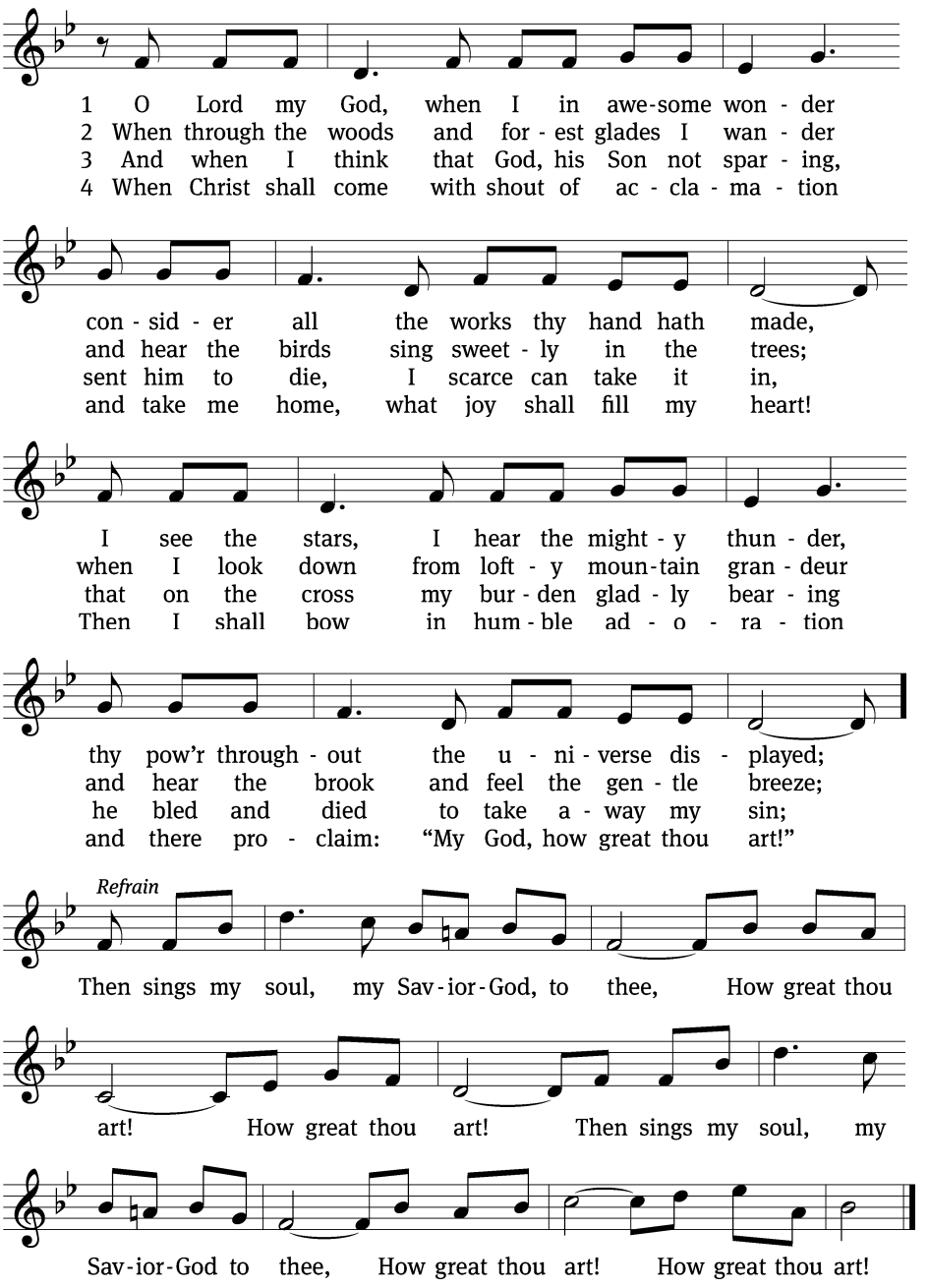
Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Amen!

How Great Thou Art

Blue hymnal 612



TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship
Worship Leader: Pastor Kurt Wetzel
Musical Accompanist: Rosemarie Boushek
Vocalist: Stephanie Wetzel
Audio/Visual: Curtis Roth
Altar Flowers: The altar flowers have been provided by the Drennon, Hopping and Naves families in memory of our loved ones and with gratitude for our many blessings.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Teen Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Monday		No School This Week – Thanksgiving Break
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Blood Drive
Wednesday		Office Closed Today Through Friday
	6:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Service
Thursday		Thanksgiving Day
Next Sunday	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Teen Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Open Gym
	6:00 p.m.	Advent by Candlelight

To connect to our website and the auto giving option:

Birthdays		***Anniversaries***
Atlee Miller	*Nov 22*	
Adam Naves		
Lance Carson	*Nov 23*	
Rosalie Ringstrom		
Jean Konyuk	*Nov 24*	
Rod Gunter	*Nov 25*	
Wyatt Baker	*Nov 26*	
Julie Bartlow		
Megan Loe		
David Hahn	*Nov 28*	

Acknowledgments

"Just and Righteous" Text: attr. Thomas de Celano, c. 1190-c. 1260, abr., sts.; Mark A. Jeske, b. 1952, refrain; tr. William J. Irons, 1812-1883, sts. Text (sts.): public domain. Text (refrain): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Tune: © 2004 Sarah R. Lambrecht; used by permission.

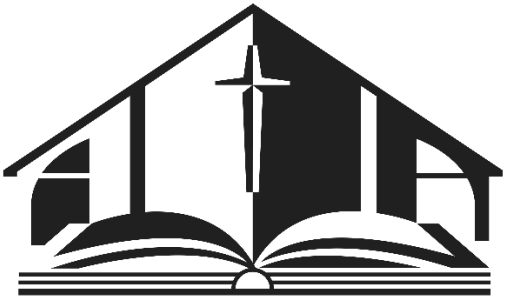
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