

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



*“Beneath our
anxiety and
judging lies an
even deeper
problem,
according
to Jesus.
We do not
realize how
deeply we are
loved.”*

Brian McLaren
We Make the Road by
Walking, p. 142



WELCOME to Valley of Peace. We are glad you are here.

We give thanks to God for all people and want all people to feel comfortable participating in worship. If you need any assistance please let our Ushers know. We are happy to offer hearing assistance devices, move chairs to make worship feel more accessible for you, and offer any other support that would be meaningful for you in this space.

All ages are welcome to worship at Valley of Peace and we give thanks for the voices of our littlest ones. If you feel that your little one is wiggly, you are welcome to go with them to stretch their legs in the narthex where there is a small area with books and toys and you can hear the worship service. There are also bags available for you to put toys and books in and bring them into the sanctuary space.

And again, welcome to worship this day. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Interested in becoming a Member? Let Pastor Ashley know by September 29, 2025

Our next New Member Class is: Sunday, October 5, 2025 after worship.

SENSORY ACTIVITIES AND SPACES AT VOP

Sensory integration is the process by which individuals receive information through our senses, (Vision, Hearing, Smell, Taste, Touch, Vestibular/Movement, and Proprioception/Body Position), organize this information, and use it to participate in activities.

Each person reacts to sensory information differently. People of all ages can have sensory issues that make it more difficult to participate depending on the environment. Sensory issues are very complex because a person's sensory system could be a mixture of over reactive, under reactive, or actively engaged.

After assessing need, Emilie Moravec has been working with a few community members to make our space more welcoming for those with sensory needs. The following items are now available at the Welcome Center for individuals with sensory needs:

- Ear defender headphones
- Earplugs
- Sunglasses
- Weighted lap pads
- Battery powered fans
- Fidget blanket

Please speak with an usher or volunteer at the Welcome Center to find these items. Additional fidget supplies are available near the "busy bag" tree in the narthex outside of the sanctuary. These sensory tools are intended to promote regulation, improve focus, increase participation, and make our space more accessible and welcoming to children, teens, and adults with sensory processing needs.

If you are in need of change of environment while at Valley of Peace, the following areas are available:

- Narthex - provides space for movement right outside of the sanctuary. The worship service can still be seen and heard.
- Fireside Room - Near the top of the staircase, on the same level as the sanctuary. This space provides comfortable seating where the worship service can still be heard.
- Youth Room - The Youth room is located on the lowest level of the church and will contain a "quiet corner" with soft lighting and no worship sounds.

Sources: Mailloux Z & Smith Roley S. Sensory Integration Development and Early Signs of Difficulties. July 2013

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church
March 30, 2025
10:15 a.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

A Lenten Prayer

by Antonin Dvorak

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

by Johann Sebastian Bach

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are the poor in spirit, the downtrodden, the despairing,

They will rejoice in God's reign forever.

Blessed are those who mourn, who are grieving,

They will be comforted in God's reign forever.

Blessed are the ones who seek justice and righteousness,

They will find it in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we when we love our neighbors and seek their needs,

We will live in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we all when we seek to serve others in God's name.

Let us worship together, serving one another and serving God. Amen.

+ Please
stand in
body or
spirit.

We invite you
to
participate in
worship by
reading the
BOLD print

+OPENING HYMN

ELW #599 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One, you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

598

For by Grace You Have Been Saved



- 1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
 God's great gift." A - men.
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper

Music: Kari Tikka

Text and music © Fennica Gehrman, admin. Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

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599

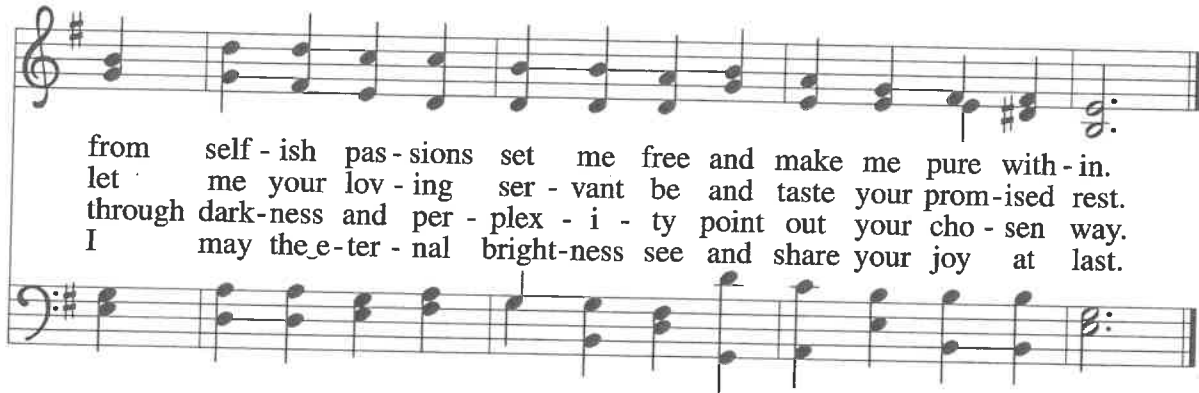
Lord Jesus, Think on Me

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.
 Music: W. Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

SOUTHWELL

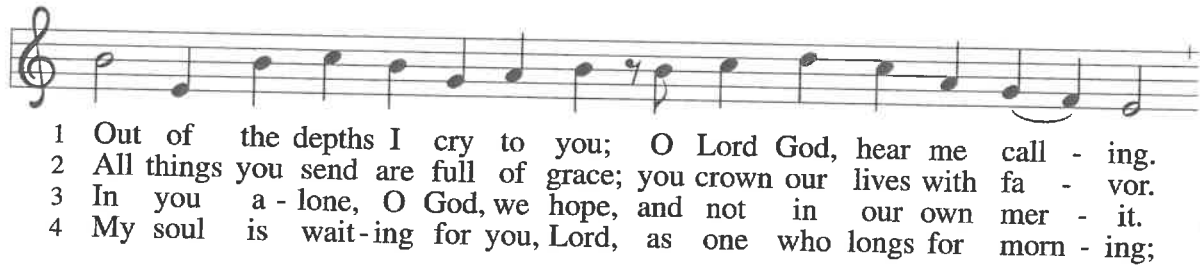
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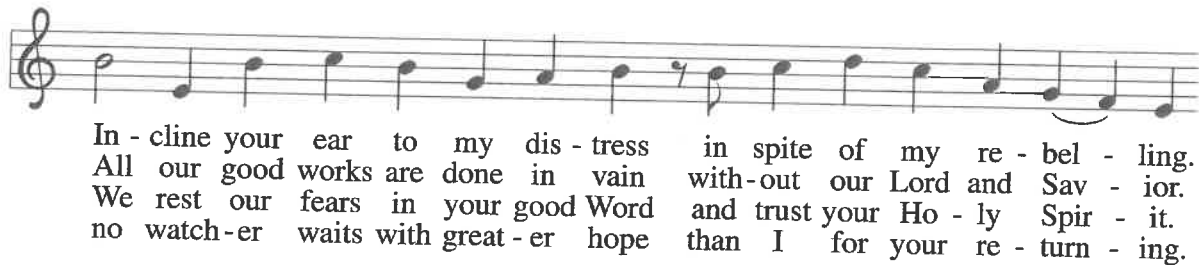
from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
 let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
 through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Out of the Depths I Cry to You

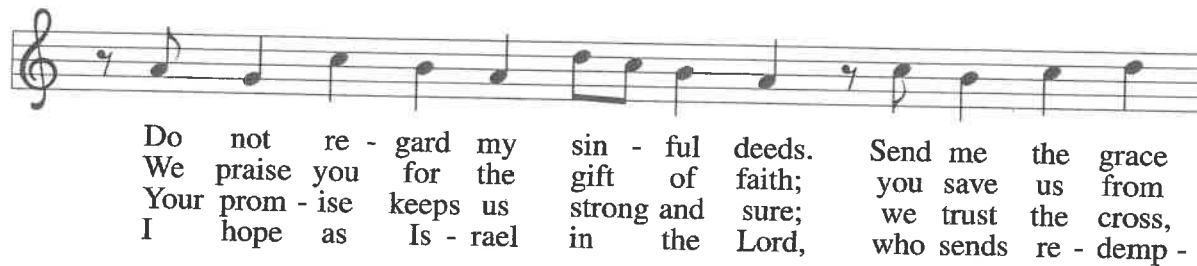
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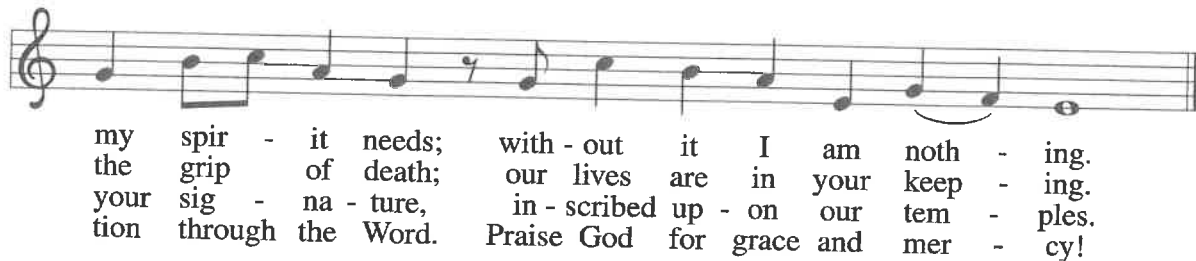
1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.
 2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.
 3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.
 4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.
 All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.
 We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.
 no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace
 We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from
 Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,
 I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.
 the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.
 your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.
 tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!

+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.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and Loving God, You call us to store up treasures that do not fade, treasures of justice, mercy, and love. In a world that teaches us to grasp and hoard, open our hands to generosity. In a culture of judgment and division, open our hearts to compassion. Help us to trust in your abundant grace, seeking first your kingdom where all are welcomed, valued, and embraced through Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior. **Amen.**

NEW MEMBER WELCOME & PRAYER

FAITH MOMENT

ANTHEM

Christ be With Me

Words by Saint Patric
Music by Michael S. Bryson

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ to fill me and fulfill me.
Christ be always my all in all.

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart—
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me.

Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word
I ever with thee, and thou with me Lord;

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ to fill me and fulfill me,
Christ be always my all in all.

+GOSPEL READING.....Matthew 6:19-7:12

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY

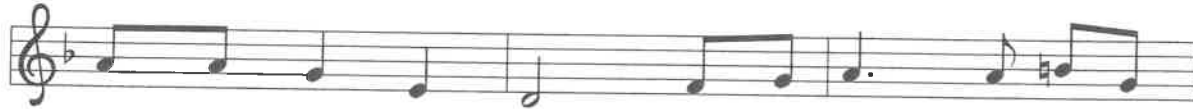
ELW 334 *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*
vs 1, 2, 3, and Lent 4

334

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
 2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
 3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
 bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
 sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
 bod - y of our Lord.
 riv - er, you the sea.

One of the following may be sung as the final stanza at the appropriate time.

General

Light of life beyond conceiving,
 mighty Spirit of our Lord;
 give new strength to our believing,
 give us faith to live your word.

Lent 1

From the dawning of creation
 you have loved us as your own;
 stay with us through all temptation,
 make us turn to you alone.

Lent 2

In our call to be a blessing,
 may we be a blessing true;
 may we live and die confessing
 Christ as Lord of all we do.

Lent 3

Living Water of salvation,
 be the fountain of each soul;
 springing up in new creation,
 flow in us and make us whole.

Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly;
 make us children of your light.
 Give us hearts to live more nearly
 as your gospel shining bright.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
 God who lives beyond our death,
 hold us close through each tomorrow,
 love as near as ev'ry breath.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response— Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERTORY *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross with In the Cross of Christ I Glory*
Arranged by Cindy Berry

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious Provider, **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

+HOLY COMMUNION

O God, Creator of our wilderness world,
O God, Savior of the lost,
O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering,
We give you thanks for your everlasting might:
We glorify you for your covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleaned the earth with the waters of the flood.

We praise you, O God: **We praise you, O God.**

For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of the law.

We praise you, O God: **We praise you, O God.**

For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.

We praise you, O God: **We praise you, O God.**

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.

For forty days, with fasting and prayers, he renounced the power of the devil.

On the night before he died he took bread, and gave thanks,

Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

We extol his life. Amen: **Amen.**

We lament his death. Amen: **Amen.**

We celebrate his resurrection. Amen: **Amen.**



Electronic Giving

Transform us, O God, with your lively Spirit,
Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son.
Save us, O God: **Save us, O God.**
Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance.
Save us, O God: **Save us, O God.**
Teach us your words of wisdom and justice.
Save us, O God: **Save us, O God.**
Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace.
Save us, O God: **Save us, O God.**

At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.
To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Be our worship and praise, adoration and
thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen. **Amen.**

+LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.
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

472

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community
Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

BERTHIER
Irregular

473

Holy, Holy, Holy

Santo, santo, santo

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to e - res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional
Music: Argentine traditional

ARGENTINE SANTO
6 7 8 5

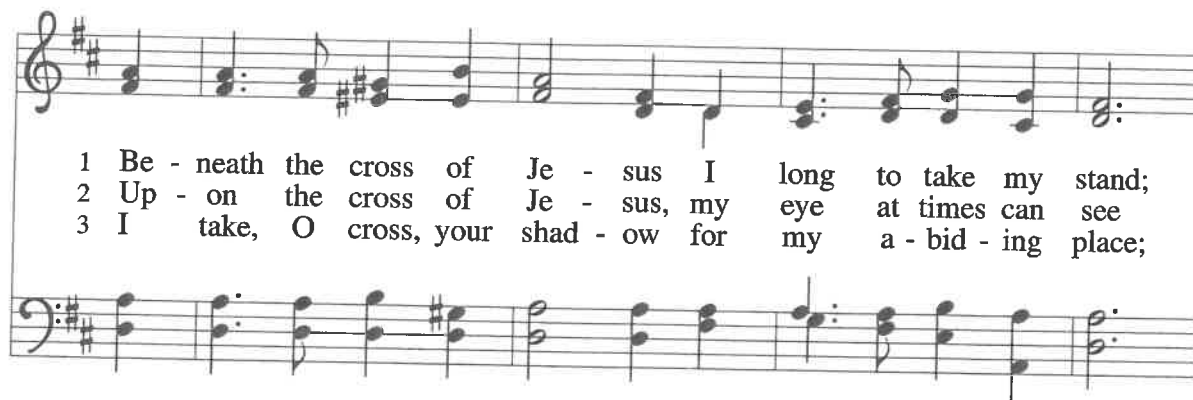
God Loved the World

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

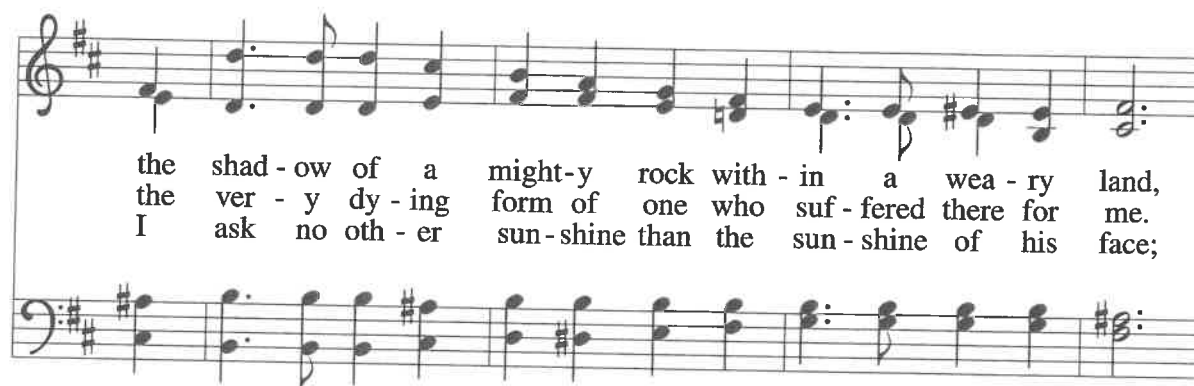
Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

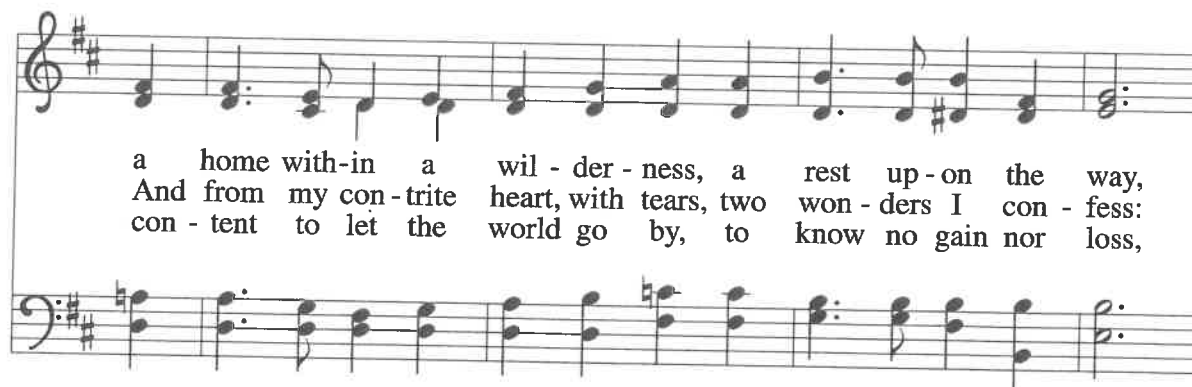
Beneath the Cross of Jesus



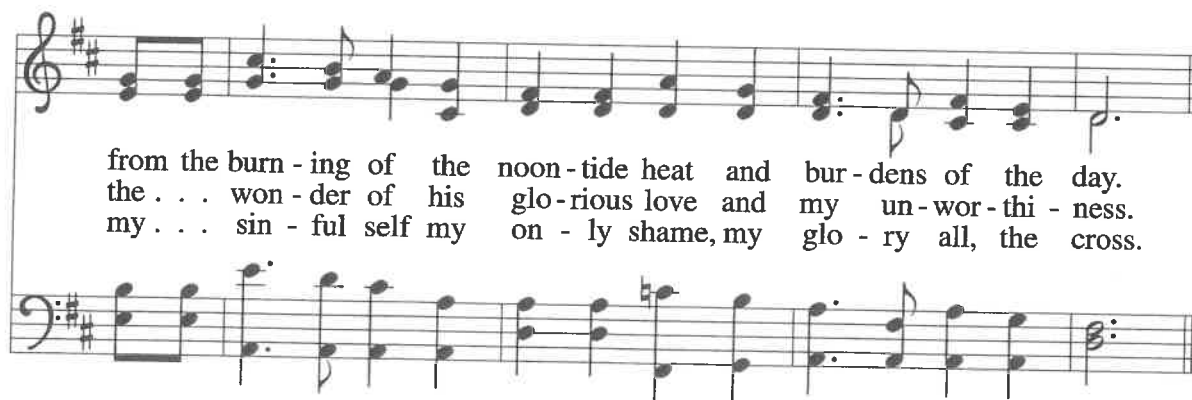
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

COMMUNION INVITATION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION AND HYMNS

ELW #472 Eat this Bread

ELW #323 God Love the World

ELW #338 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

All are welcome to receive communion at Valley of Peace. We serve communion every Sunday by intinction. After the pastor speaks the words of distribution to online worshipers, the ushers will then invite worshippers physically present to receive communion.

If you are receiving communion by intinction, there will be bread and gluten-free wafers available. As you come forward to receive communion, a communion server will serve you your preference. Please take the bread or wafer and dip it into your preference of either wine or juice. The first chalice will contain wine and the second chalice will contain grape juice.

If you prefer to not receive communion by intinction there are pre-packaged communion kits with a gluten-free wafer and grape juice. You may pick this up on your way to communion.

*If you prefer not to receive communion at all,
please come forward with your hands across your chest and you will receive a blessing.
If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

+COMMUNION BLESSING

+PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage; may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+BLESSING

+SENDING HYMN

ELW #324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

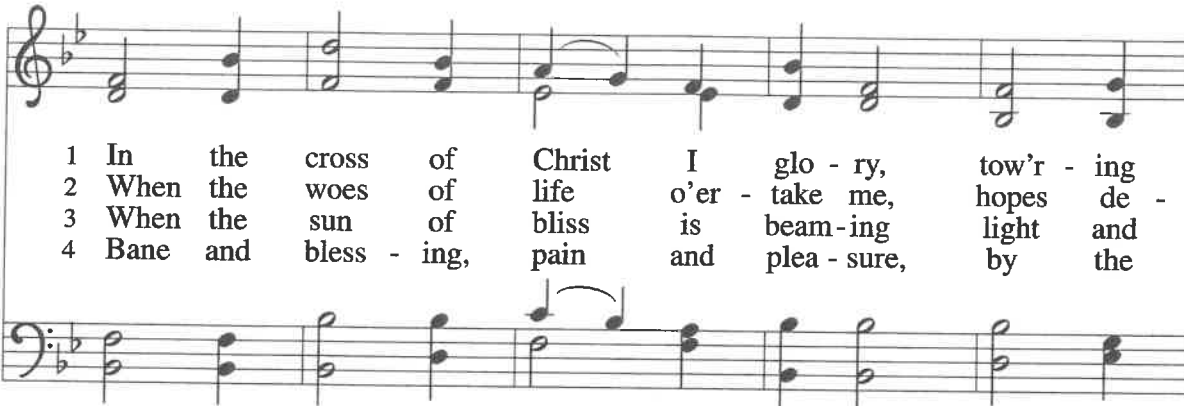
POSTLUDE

Epilogue

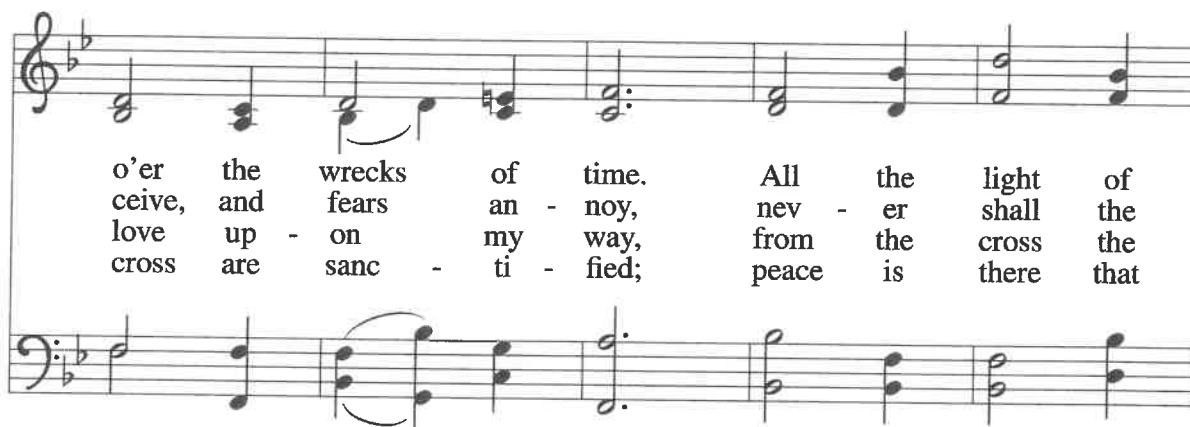
by Franklin Ritter

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

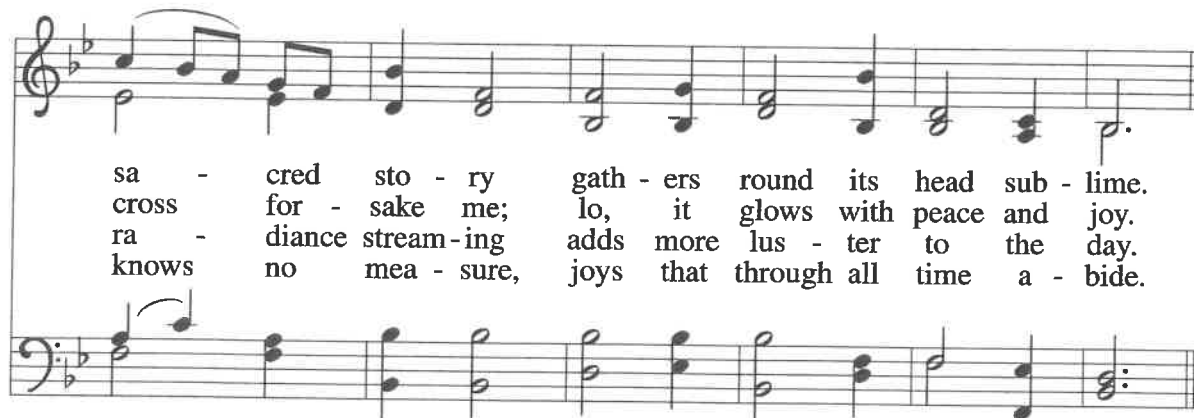
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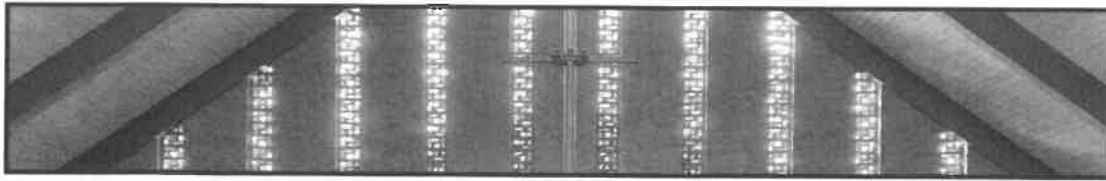
1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the shall the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream-ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.



In Worship Today

Presider/Preacher.....	Pastor Ashley Osborn
Pianist/Organist.....	Beth Brandt
Interim Director of Music.....	Christine Weatherman
Opener/Closer.....	Pat McGraw
Greeter.....	Sally Daniels Herron
Welcome Center.....	Sally Daniels Herron
Faith Moment.....	Dan Johnson
Ushers.....	Judy Greeninger, Alex Balint, Casey Balint, Dee Kendall
Worship Assistant.....	Tara Kuckkan
Reader.....	Barry Terrass
Music Provided By.....	Chancel Choir
Coffee Cart.....	Margaret Wallace
Tech.....	Matt Dellwo
Altar Care.....	Claudia Aronsohn
Bell Table Set Up.....	Barb and Paul Mikelson

The Altar Flowers are given by Dan and Christine Weatherman in celebration of Christine's birthday, which was March 28!

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In Worship on Sunday, April 6 at 10:15 a.m.

Presider/Preacher.....	Pastor Laurie Eaton
Pianist/Organist.....	Beth Brandt
Opener/Closer.....	Jon and Ruth Larson
Greeter.....	Leslie and Dave Gilyard
Welcome Center.....	Anna Halvorson
Faith Moment.....	Barb Mikelson
Ushers.....	Craig Franz, Skip Humphrey, Barry Terrass, Sten Pearson
Worship Assistant.....	Sara Blood
Communion Servers.....	Barb and Paul Mikelson
Reader.....	Anna Halvorson
Music Provided By.....	Chancel Choir
Coffee Cart.....	Margaret Wallace
Tech.....	Pam Syverson
Altar Care.....	Linda Franz
Bell Table Set Up.....	Ruth and Jon Larson

Valley of Peace Staff

Pastor

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Christine Weatherman
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Interim Ministry Support Coordinator

Sally Daniels Herron
(she/her/hers)
office@valleyofpeace.org

Director of Children, Youth and Family &

Interim Bell Choir Director
Pace Warfield
(they/them/theirs)
cyf@valleyofpeace.org

Reconciling In Christ Statement

We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God and, by grace, is called a child of God, without exception and regardless of gender, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, age, station in life, or political affiliation.

