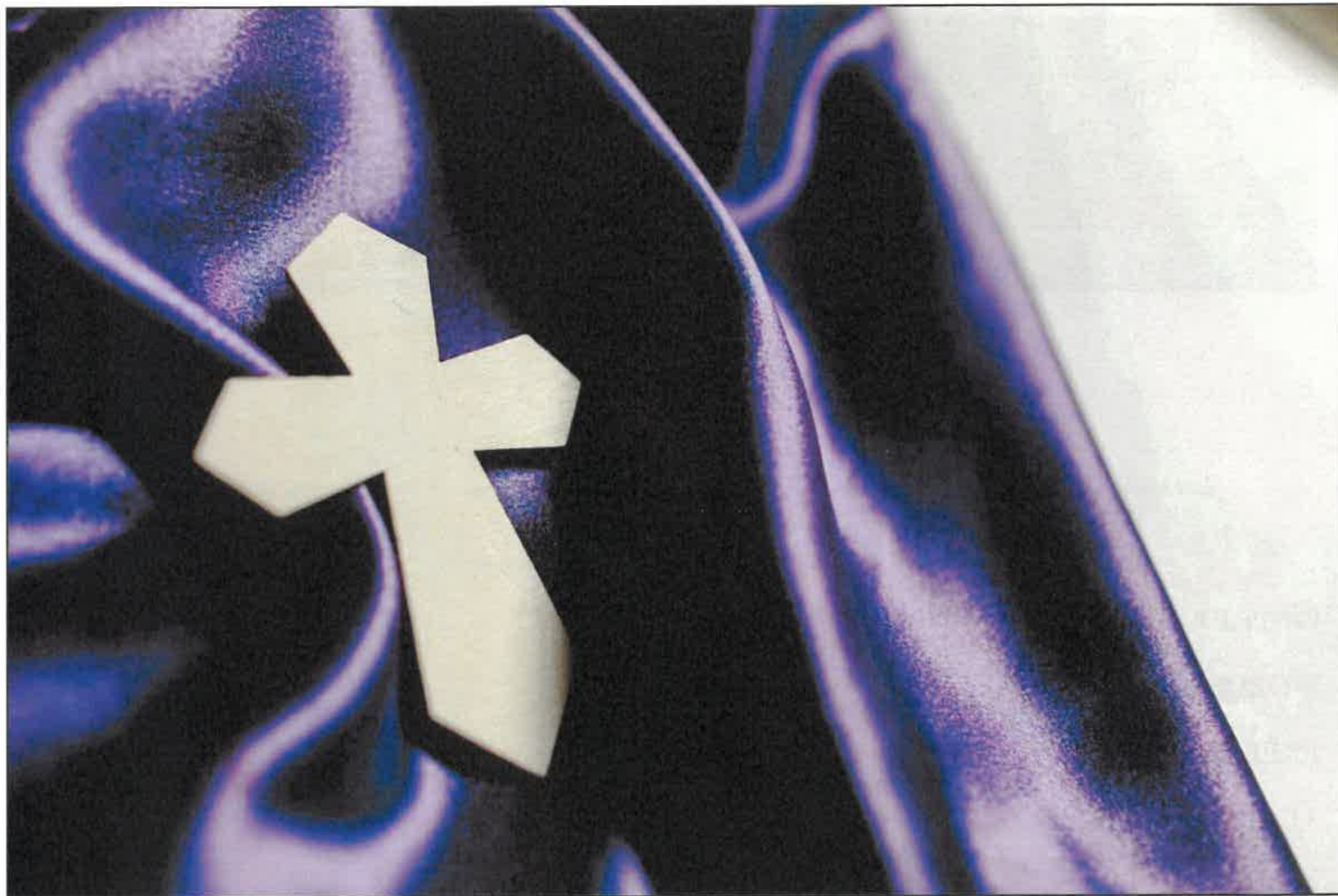


# Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026





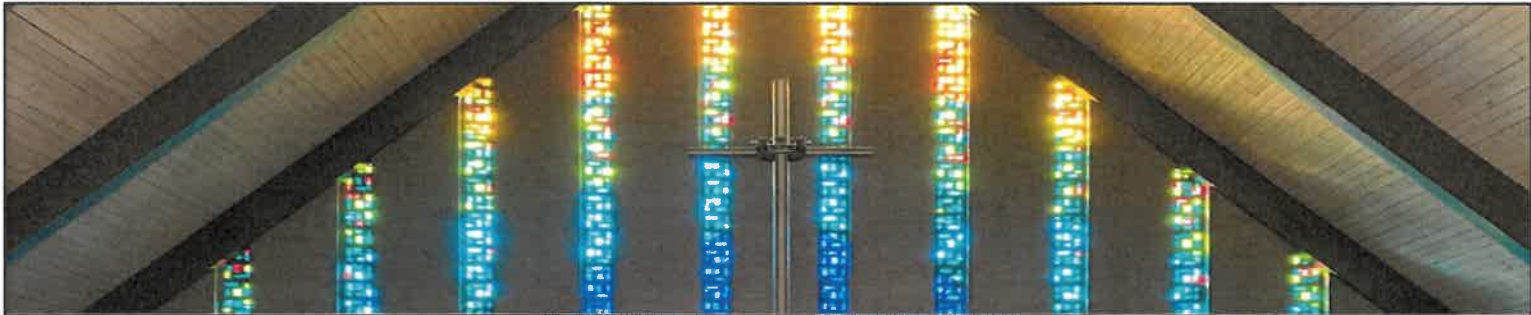
Welcome to Valley of Peace.  
We are glad you are here.

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 **March 9, 2026**.  
Our next New Member Class is: Sunday, March 15, 2026 after worship.



Valley of Peace Lutheran Church  
February 22, 2026  
10:15 am

*You are invited to participate in worship by reading the **BOLD** print. When you see +, please stand in body or in spirit.  
ELW is the red hymnal and ACS is purple hymnal, both located in the bottom of the pew in front of you.  
If you need any assistance, please ask an usher.*

|                  |   |              |
|------------------|---|--------------|
| GATHERING MUSIC  | <i>Little Toccata</i>                             | Colin Curtis |
| WORDS OF WELCOME |   |              |
| PRELUDE          | <i>Moderato in a B Flat Major</i>                 | Ch. H. Rinck |
| +CALL TO WORSHIP |   |              |
|                  | We gather as we are, some in joy, some in sorrow. |              |
|                  | <b>We bring our joys and sorrows to God.</b>      |              |
|                  | Our God receives us in love and mercy.            |              |
|                  | <b>We trust in God’s promise of eternal life.</b> |              |

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We confess our sins before God and one another

*Pause for silence and reflection*

Most Holy God, **we come to you in need of grace. Time and again we have forgotten your simple and loving call—to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves. We have forgotten your promise to care for us, and in our fear, we have made choices that hurt us, those around us, and even those we don’t know. Remind us who we are and whose we are, and show us the way to amend our wrongs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our savior and friend.**

Have no fear, little flock, for God loves you exactly as you are, and desires nothing more than to restore you to wholeness. Know that you are freed from sin and death now and forever. **Amen.**

+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

Let us pray. God of life, all of us have grieved losses in our lives; many are grieving today, here and around the world. Comfort us in our grief and restore our hope in your promise to wipe away the tears from every face. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

FAITH MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING.....Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Before the reading:* The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

SCRIPTURE READING.....John 11:1-44

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

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of mercy and grace,  
We lift our prayers to you.

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

OFFERING

*Poor Man Lazarus*

arr. J. Hairston

+OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*



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.

#### +OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. As Jesus gave Lazarus life, **so you give us life each day in your name. In gratitude for all your generosity to us, we return to you these gifts of our labor, our money, and our whole selves. Bless what we offer that it might be a blessing to all creation. Amen.**

#### +HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 right, and it is good, to give you thanks, O God, for you are faithful even when we are not. From the beginning, you have spoken life into being; a light shining in the shadows, a Word that does not abandon the world.

In this Lenten season, you call us again into the wilderness: to pray more deeply, to fast from what numbs or distracts us, to return to you with honest hearts.

In Jesus, your Word made flesh, you draw near to us. Jesus taught with clarity, loved with courage, and lived with a freedom rooted in trust in you.

He fed the hungry, restored dignity to the wounded, and showed us a way of life shaped not by fear, but by love.

Even as suffering drew near, he remained faithful, entrusting himself completely to your care.

Remembering all that you have done for us, and trusting in all that you promise to do, we gather at this table, seeking renewal for the journey ahead.

On the night before he gave himself up for us, Jesus gathered with his disciples.....

Remembering his life, his death, and his promise, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and come. As we receive them, renew us for the Lenten journey. Strip away what is false. Heal what is wounded. Strengthen what is weak.

Teach us again how to pray, how to fast, how to live with humility and love.

Abide with us, O Christ, as the branches abide in the vine, that our lives may bear the fruit of justice, mercy, and compassion.

All glory is yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

+LORD’S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus first 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.**

+INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the body of Christ, given for you. This is the cup of grace, poured out for you. Come with empty hands. Come with honest hearts. Come, and be renewed for the way ahead.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

RED ELW #471 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

RED ELW #496 *One Bread, One Body*

*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 or either wine or juice. The first chalice will contain red wine and the second chalice will contain white 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 or do not want to be visible on the live-stream, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

+COMMUNION BLESSING

+PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+BLESSING

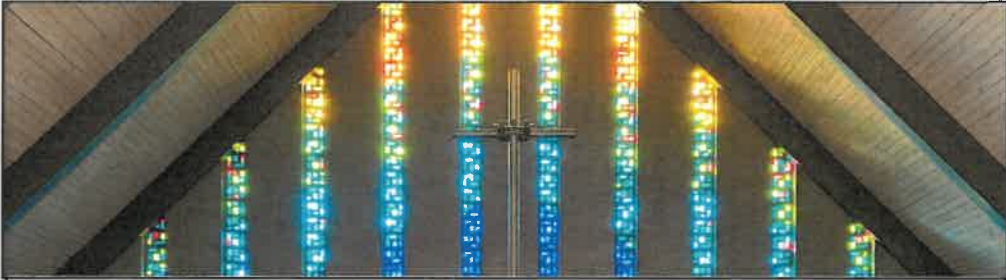
+SENDING HYMN                      RED ELW #697 *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

+DISMISSAL  
Go in Peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE                              *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*                              H. Percy Smith

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Music printed and live-streamed with permission from One License #A719979 and CCLI License #2176842.





VALLEY OF PEACE  
STAFF

Pastor

Ashley Osborn (she/her/hers)  
aosborn@valleyofpeace.org

Organist/Pianist/Accompanist

Beth Brandt (she/her/hers)  
organist@valleyofpeace.org

Ministry Support Coordinator

Kelsey Pierson (she/her/hers)  
office@valleyofpeace.org

Director of Music

Christine Weatherman (she/her/hers)  
music@valleyofpeace.org

Director of Children, Youth & Family

Dan Miller (he/him/his)  
cyf@valleyofpeace.org

In Worship Today

Presider/Preacher.....Pastor Michael Stadie  
Opener/Closer.....Jim Jasper  
Greeter.....Kathy Boesen  
Welcome Center.....Sally Daniels Herron  
Ushers.....Judy Greeninger, Casey Balint & Alex Balint  
Worship Assistant.....Dan Miller  
Reader.....Dan Miller  
Communion Servers.....**OPEN**, Jon Larson, Wes Syverson & Paul Mikelson  
Faith Moment.....Jon Larson  
Technology.....Naomi Dybvig  
Coffee Cart.....Gina Privratsky & Lisa Thanghe  
Altar Care.....Pat Hepner  
CYF Greeter.....Dan Miller

In Worship on Sunday, March 1 at 10:15 am

Presider/Preacher.....Pastor Ashley Osborn  
Opener/Closer.....Ruth Larson & Jon Larson  
Greeter.....Pat Hoyt  
Welcome Center.....Diane Hinderlie  
Ushers.....Dee Kendall, Shennon Jay, Pam Syverson & Wes Syverson  
Worship Assistant.....Elizabeth Hermeier  
Reader.....Steve Hoge  
Communion Servers.....Gina Privratsky, Laurie Eaton,  
Anna Halvorson & Dave Gilyard  
Technology.....Chuck Rudolph  
Coffee Cart.....Lisa Rothschild  
Altar Care.....Kathy Boesen  
CYF Greeter.....**OPEN**

**Altar Flowers are given by Sally Daniels Herron in celebration  
of her four grandchildren: Jesse, Mattis, Henry & Tove.**

**For more information and a calendar of activities visit [www.valleyofpeace.org](http://www.valleyofpeace.org)**

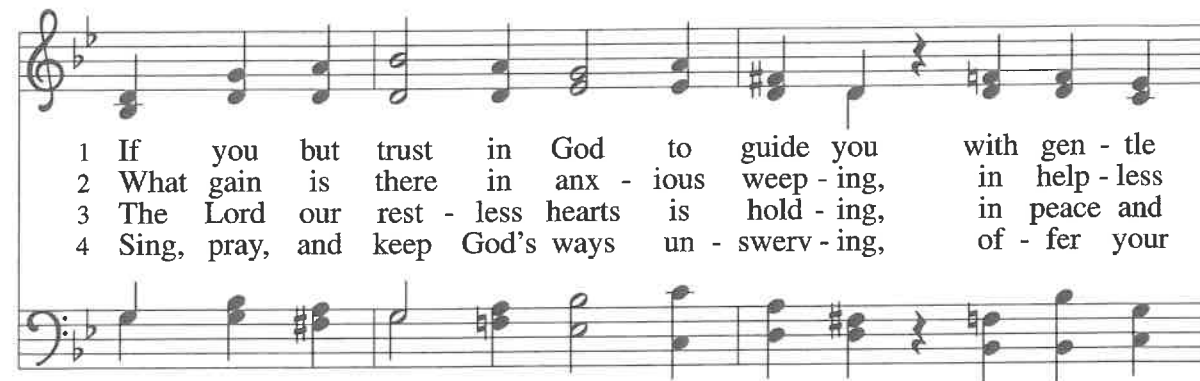
Reconciling In Christ Statement

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.





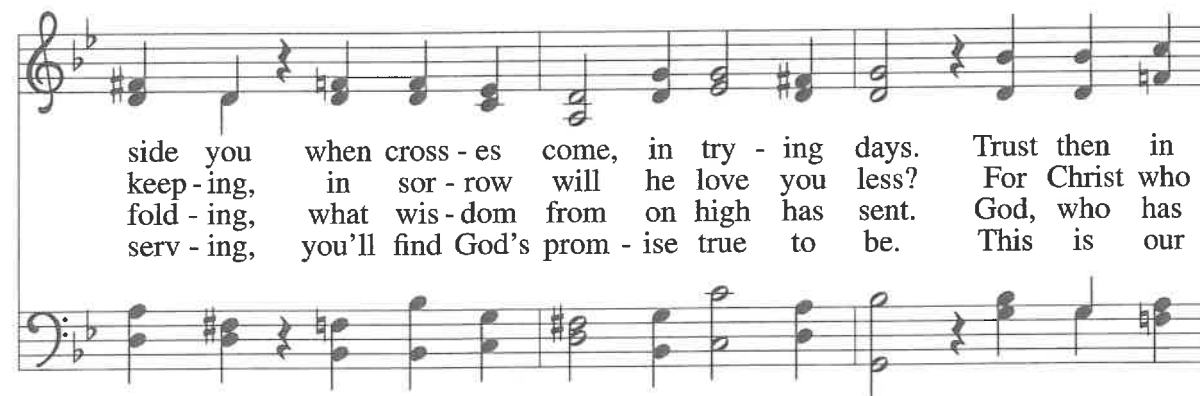
# 769 If You But Trust in God to Guide You



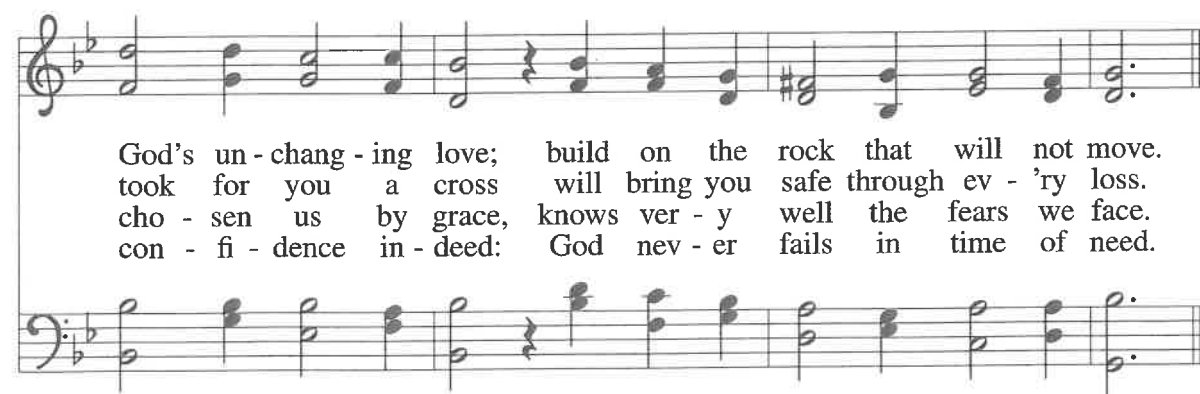
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.



697

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;  
1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;  
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?  
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.  
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*  
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*  
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*



Text: North American traditional  
Music: North American traditional

CLOSER WALK  
Irregular

698

How Long, O God



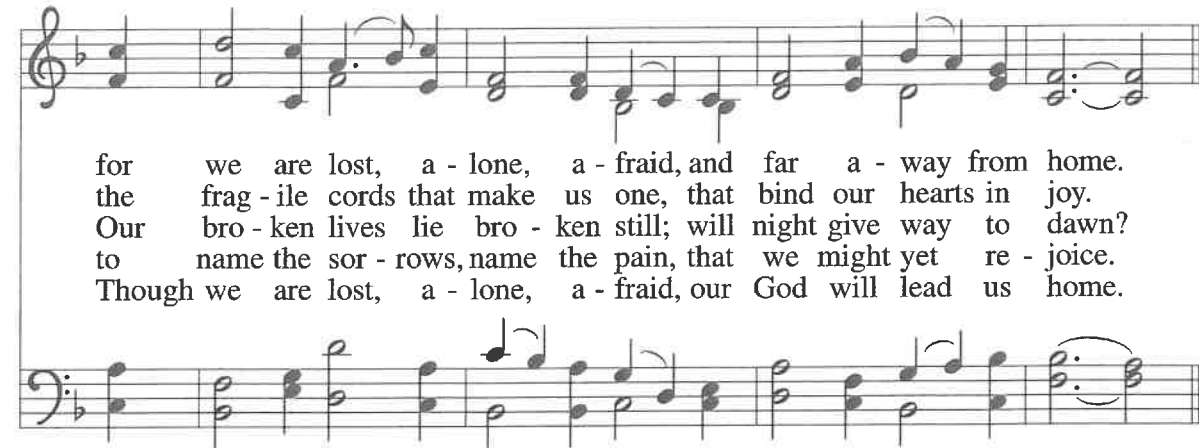
1 "How long, O God?" the psalm-ist cries, a cry we make our own,  
2 The e - vil lurks with - in, with-out, it threat-ens to de - stroy  
3 Your grace, O God, seems far a - way; will heal - ing ev - er come?  
4 How can we hope? How can we sing? O God, set free our voice  
5 "How long, O God?" the psalm-ist cries, a cry we make our own.



Text: Ralph F. Smith, 1950–1994  
Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

LAND OF REST  
CM

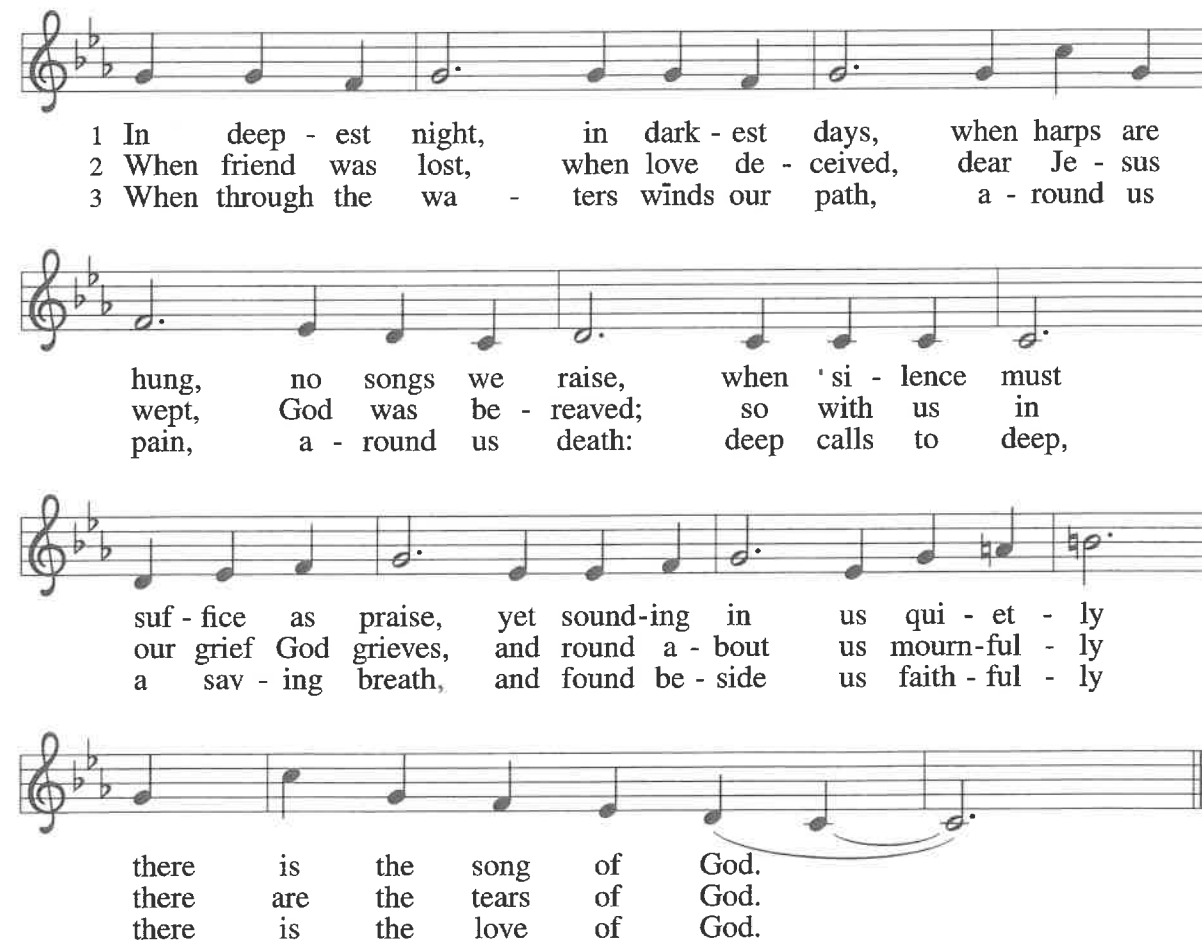




for we are lost, a - lone, a - afraid, and far a - way from home.  
 the frag - ile cords that make us one, that bind our hearts in joy.  
 Our bro - ken lives lie bro - ken still; will night give way to dawn?  
 to name the sor - rows, name the pain, that we might yet re - joice.  
 Though we are lost, a - lone, a - afraid, our God will lead us home.

## In Deepest Night

699



1 In deep - est night, in dark - est days, when harps are  
 2 When friend was lost, when love de - ceived, dear Je - sus  
 3 When through the wa - ters winds our path, a - round us

hung, no songs we raise, when 'si - lence must  
 wept, God was be - reaved; so with us in  
 pain, a - round us death: deep calls to deep,

suf - fice as praise, yet sound - ing in us qui - et - ly  
 our grief God grieves, and round a - bout us mourn - ful - ly  
 a sav - ing breath, and found be - side us faith - ful - ly

there is the song of God.  
 there are the tears of God.  
 there is the love of God.



## Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.





495

We Who Once Were Dead



1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus  
2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us  
3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him  
4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver-flow-ing when he breaks the bread.  
strength to fight; death is all a-round us. Je - sus, be our light.  
we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.  
then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead,  
but you rose and, living,  
made yourself our bread,  
in your goodness giving  
life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;  
in this meal we meet you.  
Be our bread and wine,  
Jesus, we entreat you.  
This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite  
Music: Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936  
Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications

MIDDEN IN DE DOOD  
56 56 5

496

One Bread, One Body



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y

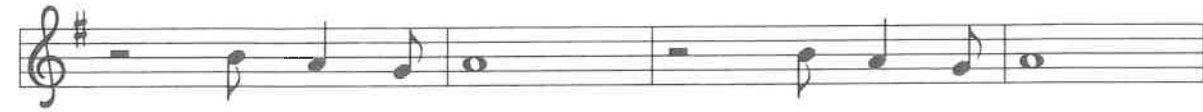
Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939  
Music: John Foley, SJ  
Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ, and OCP Publications

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY  
4 4 6 and refrain





through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



wom - an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

*Refrain*

## Strengthen for Service, Lord

497



1 Streng-then for ser - vice, Lord, the hands that ho - ly  
2 The tongues that sang your ho - ly name now purge of  
3 And may the feet that walked your courts be nev - er



things have ta - ken; and let the ears that heard your  
all de - cep - tion; keep bright the eyes that saw your  
lured to wan - der; but lead the faith - ful nour - ished

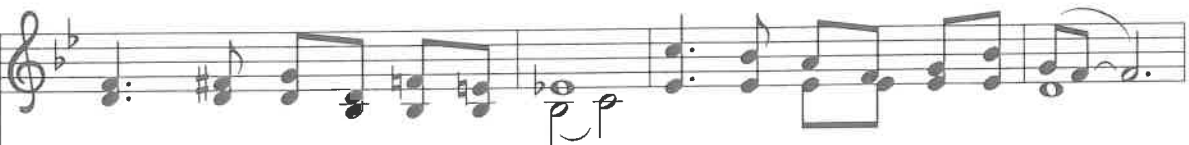


word to false - hood nev - er wak - en.  
love and sharp - en their per - cep - tion.  
here to jour - ney on in splen - dor.



697

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;  
1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;  
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?  
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.  
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. Ref.  
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. Ref.  
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. Ref.



Text: North American traditional  
Music: North American traditional

CLOSER WALK  
Irregular

698

How Long, O God



1 "How long, O God?" the psalm-ist cries, a cry we make our own,  
2 The e - vil lurks with - in, with-out, it threat-ens to de - stroy  
3 Your grace, O God, seems far a - way; will heal - ing ev - er come?  
4 How can we hope? How can we sing? O God, set free our voice  
5 "How long, O God?" the psalm-ist cries, a cry we make our own.



Text: Ralph F. Smith, 1950-1994  
Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version

LAND OF REST  
C/M

