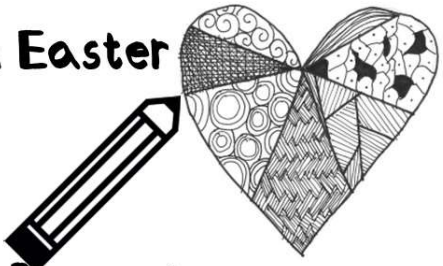
"I Will Write It on Their HEARTS"
Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hearts

God's Heart, Your Heart, Our Hearts

Devotion & Sermon Series
for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter



5th Sunday in Lent
March 21, 2021

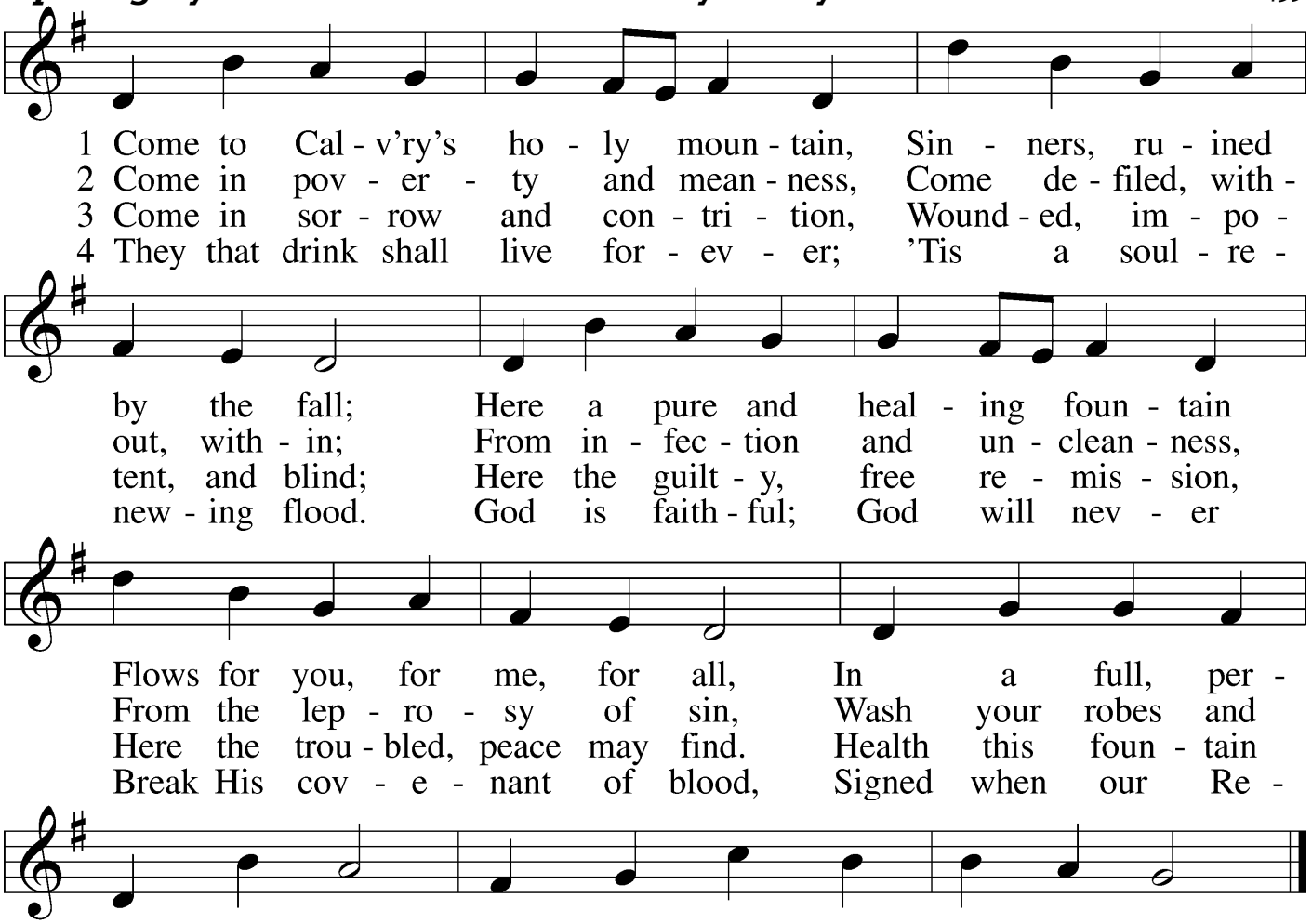
BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647
Pastor Ben Squires
Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org
Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE TO THE GLORY OF GOD

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MARK SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Mark's Gospel.
Mark is the focus of Year B Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

Opening Hymn ***Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*** *LSB 435*



Invocation (Based on Mark 1:1-8)

P: John the Baptist appeared, baptizing people in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

C: God had announced this through the prophet Isaiah:

P: "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,
the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

C: And all the people were going out to be baptized by John in the Jordan River. They were confessing their sins.

P: And John said, "I have baptized you with water,
but the One who comes after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

C: This is Jesus, the Son of God, our Lord, the Christ, the Messiah.

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession (Mark 1:15,2:17,7:14-23)

P: Jesus began His ministry, preaching and saying,
"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;

C: repent and believe in the gospel."

P: When Jesus knew that some thought they were already righteous, without sin, He said to them "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

C: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P: [Jesus] called the people to Him and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand." And He calls us now, "Hear me, all of you, and understand."

C: We have come to hear and repent.

P: Jesus says, "There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

C: We repent and believe in the Gospel of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins.

Absolution (Forgiveness) (Mark 2:5,10, 5:34; 10:52)

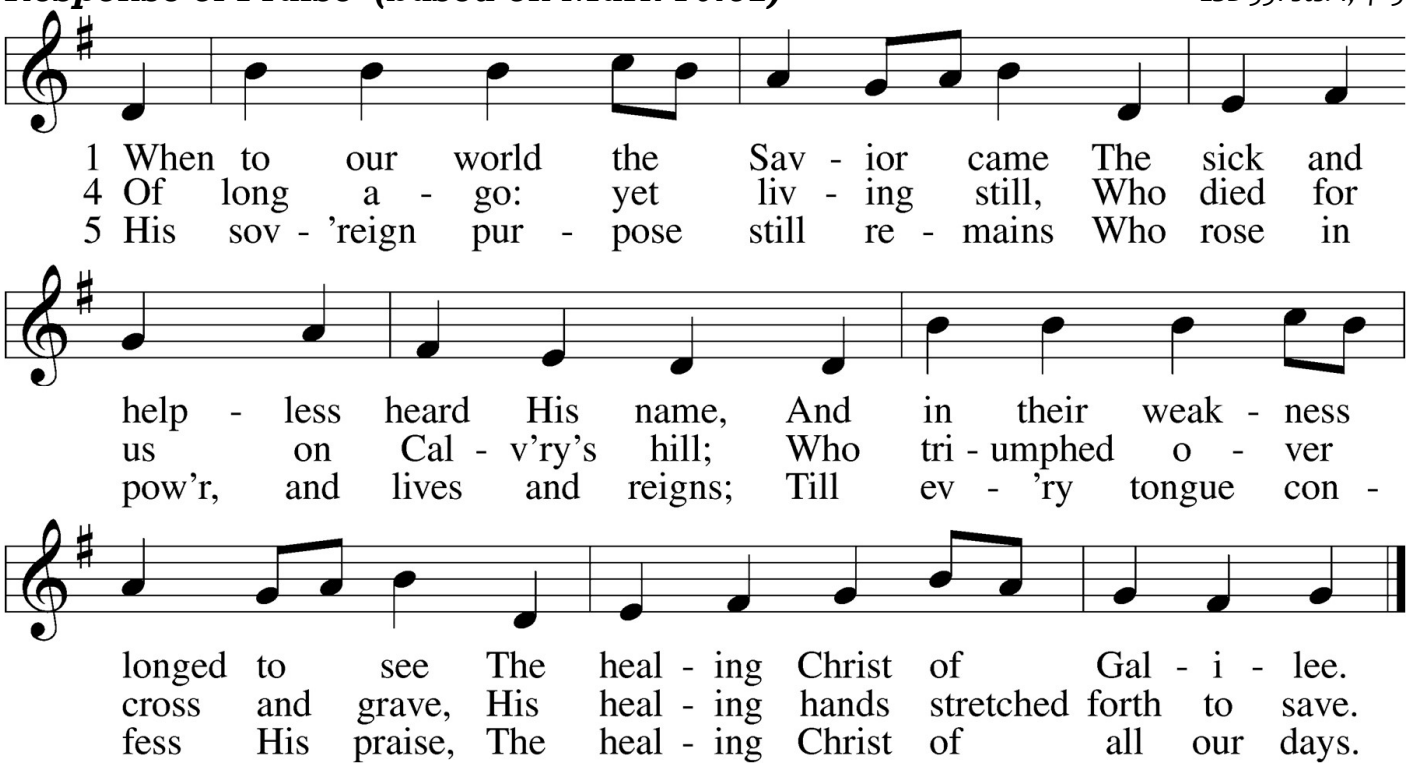
P: And when Jesus saw the faith of the paralytic brought for healing by his friends, He said, "My son, your sins are forgiven."

C: Because Jesus has authority on earth to forgive sins!

P: And Jesus said to the woman who reached out to touch Him for healing, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."
And Jesus said to the man born blind but had now received sight, "Go your way; your faith has made you well."
Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I say to you: "Your sins are forgiven, your faith has made you well." I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Response of Praise (based on Mark 10:52) *LSB 551 sts. 1, 4–5*



Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem ***Jesus, My Redeemer*** ***Adult Choir***

- *Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.*

Jesus, my Redeemer, my Savior and Friend,
Author and Giver of life without end,
Alpha, Omega, the Great I Am,
Lion of Judah, God's meek, lowly Lamb.

Jesus, my Redeemer, You died in my place,
Brought me salvation through Your matchless grace.
Your sacrifice came at such a great cost:
Bloodshed and agony on Calvary's cross.

Jesus, my Redeemer, such power to save!
On the third day You arose from the grave
Sealing my pardon and setting me free,
Building a mansion in heaven for me.

Jesus, my Redeemer, returning someday,
All your creation will bow down and say,
"You are Messiah, our Savior, our King;
Lord God Almighty, forever, forever we'll sing, forever we'll sing.

Old Testament Reading ***Jeremiah31:31–34 (ESV)***

31 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new
covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant
that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them
out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,
declares the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on
their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer
shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for
they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For
I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

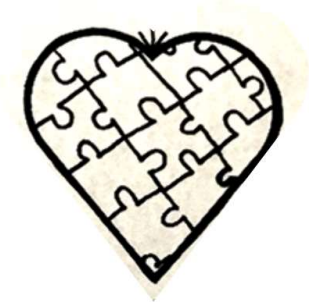
L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading ***Psalm 119:9–16 (ESV)***

9How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.
10With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!
11I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.
12Blessèd are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!
13With my lips I declare
all the just decrees of your mouth.
14In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.
15I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.
16I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.



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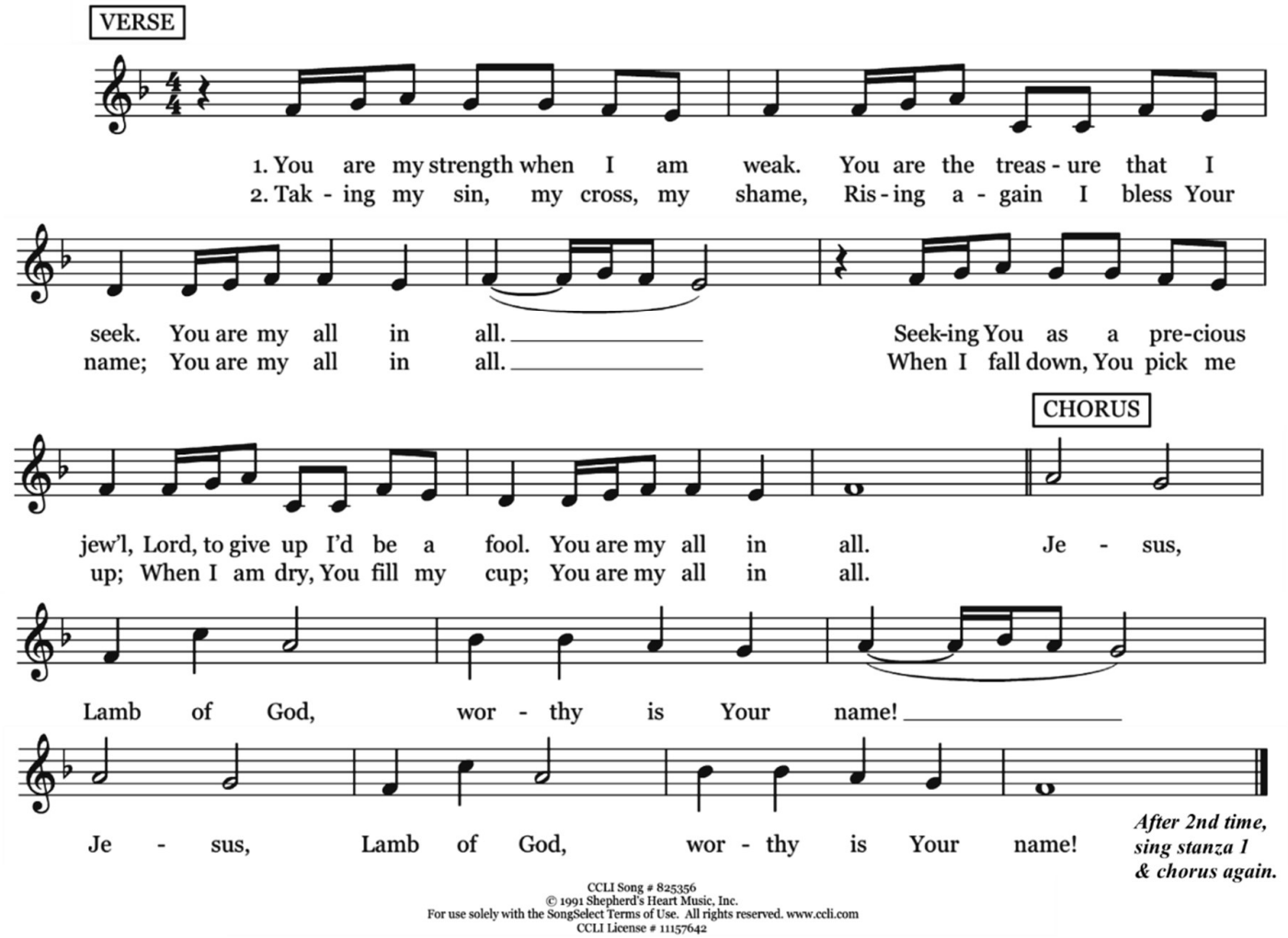
Cover heart drawings by our youth:
Audrey, Jacob, and Kyli

Song of Praise ***You are My All In***



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Holy Gospel ***Mark 10:32–45 (ESV)***

32 And [Jesus and the disciples] were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was
walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And
taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, 33 saying, "See, we
are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and
the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. 34 And
they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will
rise."

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher,
we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36 And he said to them, "What do you
want me to do for you?" 37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and
one at your left, in your glory." 38 Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking.
Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am
baptized?" 39 And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I

drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, [40]but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." [41]And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. [42]And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. [43]But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, [44]and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. [45]For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Confession of Faith from Mark 8:27-30, 9:31,10:33-34,12:10-11,16:6-7

P: When Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" Peter answered:
C: "You are the Christ."
P: meaning the Messiah, the Anointed One, coming to save God's people.
C: Did Jesus come with His glory and power?
P: No, not during His first coming. He told the disciples many times how the Lord's salvation would be accomplished: "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

And again: "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. [34]And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

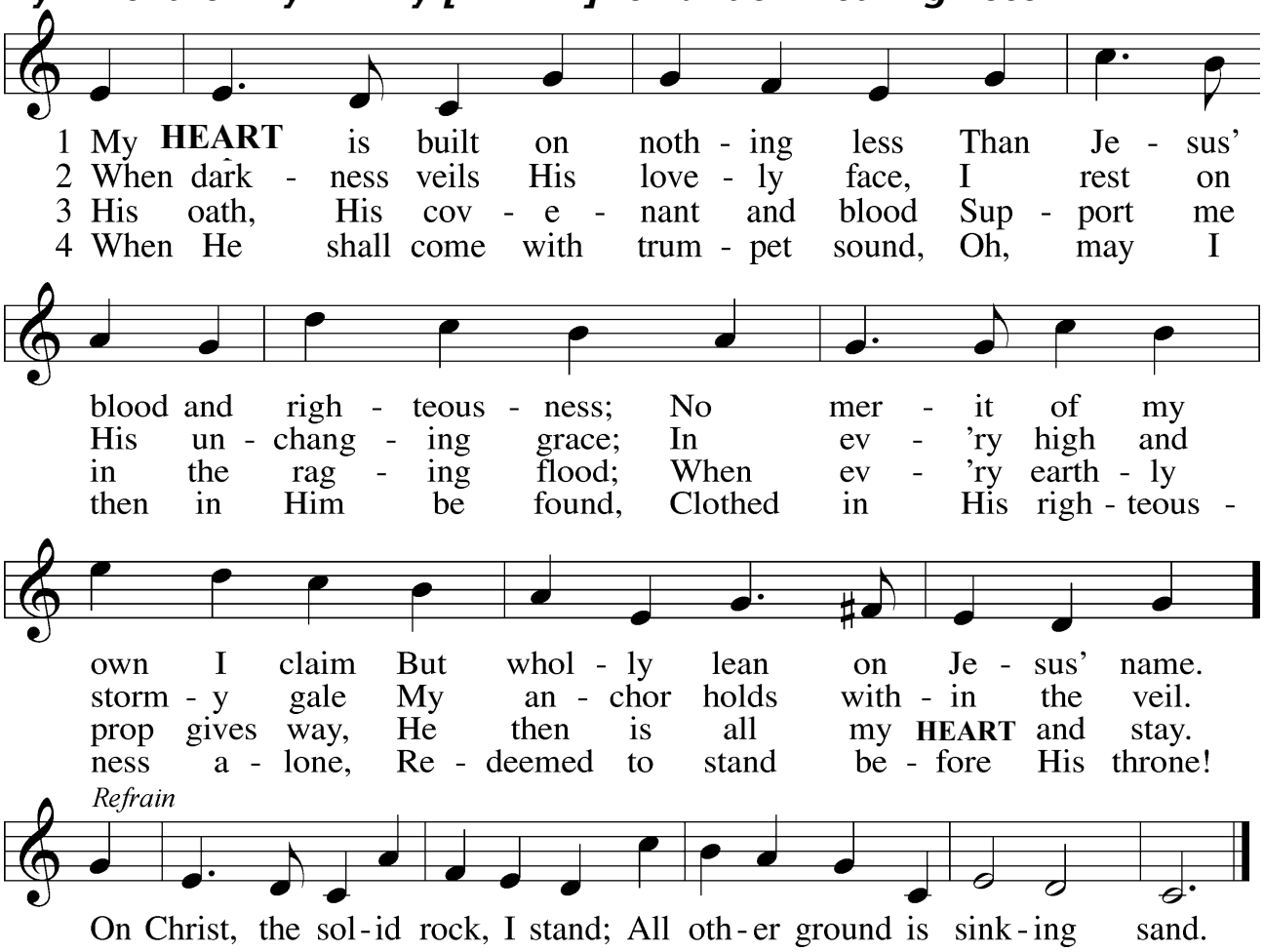
This fulfills Psalm 118 which says:

C: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."

P: So we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus just as He told us and as the angel declared to the women when they went early to the tomb on Easter: "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. [7]But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

C: This is our Resurrection hope.
Jesus has told us that He will return again
to take us to be with Him forever.
We will see Him, just as He told us. Amen.

Hymn of the Day ***My [HEART] Is Built on Nothing Less*** *LSB 575*



Sermon ***"I Will Write It On Their Hearts"*** ***Jeremiah 31:31-34***

Offering Preface (based on Mark 10:42-45,12:41–44)

P: Come, now, and offer your lives in service to the Lord. Jesus said, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them."

C: But it shall not be this way among us!
Whoever would be great among us must be a servant to others,
and whoever would be first among us must be servant of all.
For even Jesus did not come to be served but to serve,

P: and to give his life as a ransom for many.

When you come to bring financial offerings to the ministry of the Lord, remember what the Lord Jesus taught while watching the poor widow come to the Temple with her offering. She came and put in two small copper coins, which adds up to a penny.

C: Jesus said this widow put in more offering than all the others.

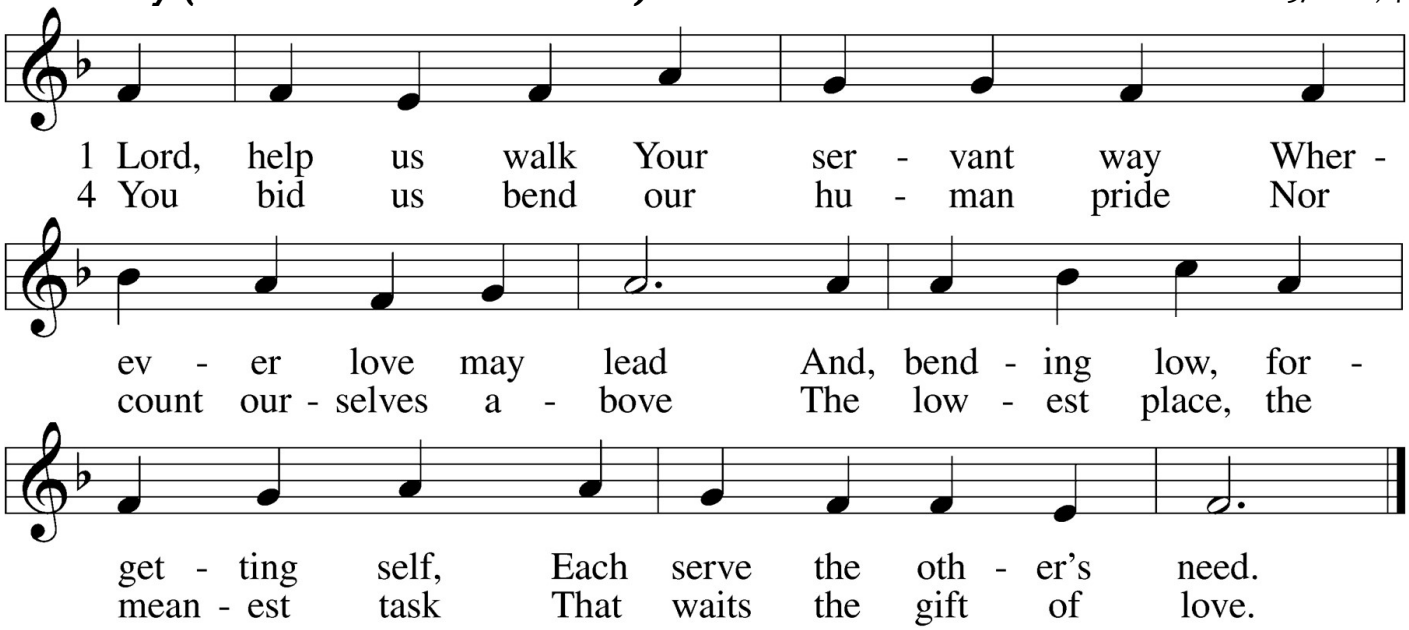
P: The others gave out of their abundance, their extra wealth,

C: But out of her poverty,
the widow put in everything she had,
all she had to live on.

P: Come, give to the Lord from your heart and as a servant. Amen.

Offertory (Based on Mark 10:42-45)

LSB 857 sts. 1, 4



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Prayers

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed
are invited to receive Communion with us
if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,
and the wine is the blood of Christ,
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.
If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.

Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Mark 12:28-34,14:34-36,41–42,61–62,15:39)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: The Lord is God, the Lord is One,

C: and there is no other god besides Him.

P: May we love Him with all our heart

C: and with all our soul and with all our strength.

P: This is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

C: Truly in Jesus He has brought us close to the kingdom of God.

P: Jesus prayed in great sorrow: "Abba, Father, remove this cup of suffering from Me. But not what I will, but what You will."

C: Jesus, the Son of Man, was betrayed into the hands of sinners.

P: On trial, the high priest asked Jesus, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"

C: And Jesus said, "I AM."

P: And when He had been crucified and died, a centurion there at the cross said:

C: "Truly, this man was the Son of God!"

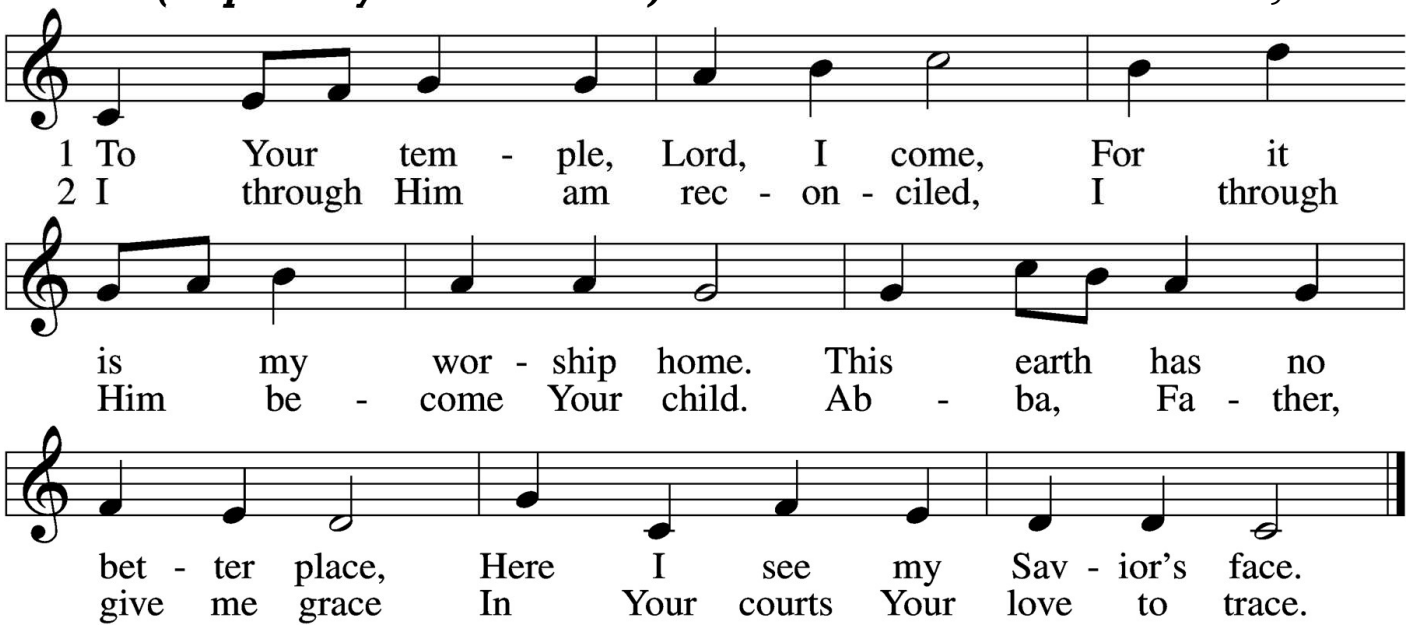
Proper Preface for Mark

LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Mark, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (inspired by Mark 14:34-36)

LSB 981 sts. 1–2



Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"*

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the bless ed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Words of Institution as in the Gospel of Mark *Mark 14:22–25*

P: [22]And as [Jesus and His disciples] were eating, [Jesus] took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." [23]And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. [24]And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. [25]Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")

Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Mark 13:24–27)

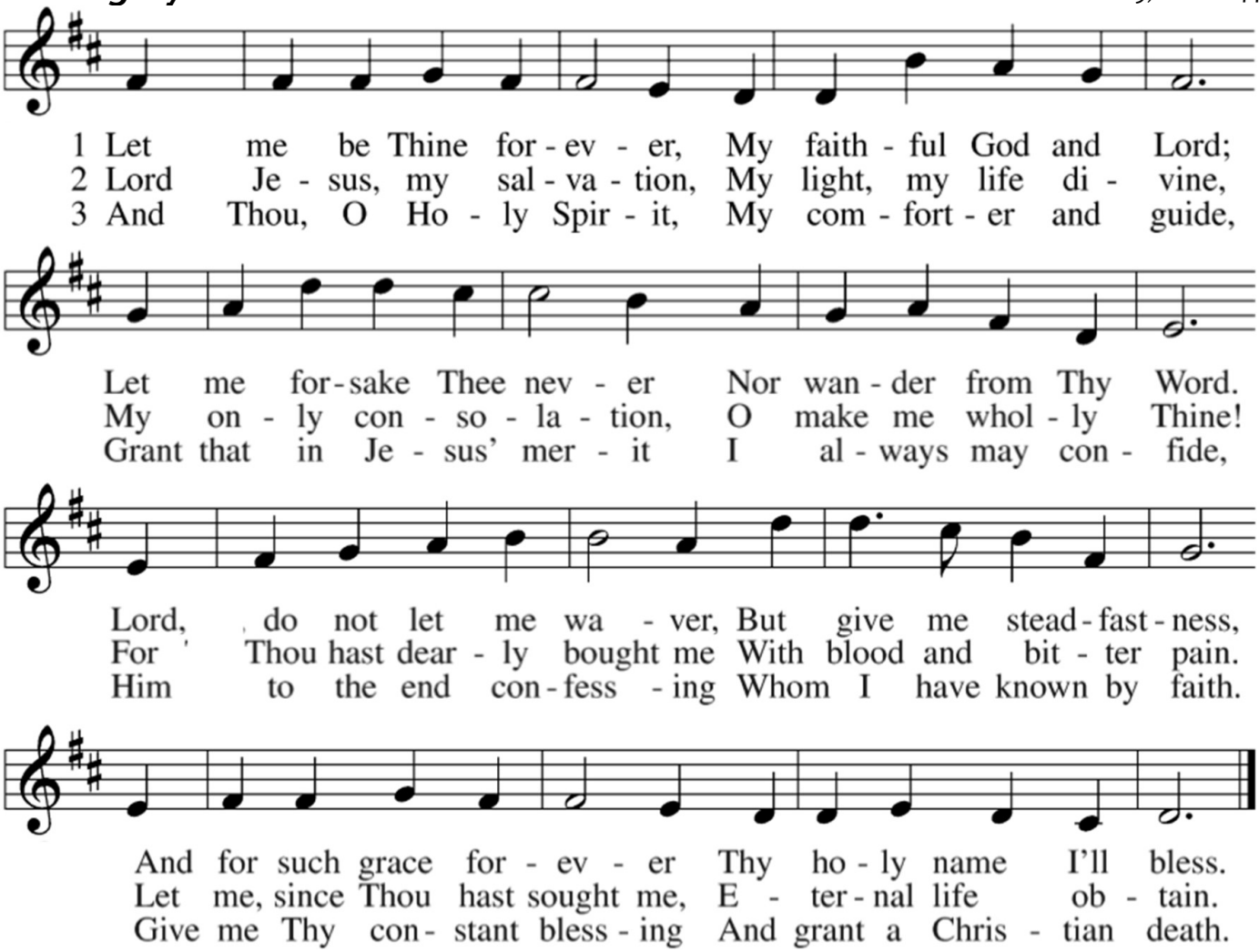
P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You have told us that in the last days, after tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. But we take hope from Your Gospel, confirmed to us in Your body and blood given to us, that we will see You, the Son of Man, coming in clouds with great power and glory. And You will send out the angels and gather us, Your elect, from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven, to be with You for eternity.

C: Amen.

Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Mark 5:34; 10:52)

P: As you have already heard this day, the words of Jesus which He spoke to others while here on Earth, these are words which He speaks to you as well today:
"My children, your sins are forgiven."
"Go your way; your faith has made you well."
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ***Let Me Be Thine Forever*** *LSB 689; tune: 644*

Announcements

INDOOR COMMUNION FOR THOSE WHO WATCH THE LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY MARCH, 21, 10AM- 11AM

Pastor, Communion Elders and Ushers will wear masks and gloves and use sanitizer to clean off tables, trays, etc.

Communion Distribution Process

- Please park in west spots outside the gym.
    - Handicapped may pull into one of the curbside spots near the gym ramp.
        - You can let an usher know if you would need Communion brought to your car by Pastor and an Elder, using a tray to deliver it. The tray is wiped down after use.
- Enter the doors to the preschool.
- When you enter the gym, you will see spots for waiting marked on the floor. (Usher will help find spots to wait).
- When you are invited, approach the Communion kneelers. Families may stay together.
- You will receive a Communion liturgy card to follow.
- Pastor will place a wafer in your hand.
- An Elder will place an individual cup on the rail.
    - Please indicate if you desire alcohol removed wine.
- Pastor & Elder will speak brief words of distribution as you take the bread and wine.
- Put your cup in the container provided. You will exit the gym through the northeast door. If you need to use the ramp to leave the gym an usher will accompany you out the door and make sure you are safely out of the building and on the way to your car.

EASTER LILIES

Order Deadline:
Sunday, March 21

As a donation to Bethel Lutheran Church I would like _____ Easter lily plant(s) at $11.00 each to be placed in our worship areas for Easter services on **April 4**.

_____

Name and telephone number [please print]

Total amount enclosed: $_____

Checks can be written to "Bethel Lutheran Church" and place check (or cash) with the form in an envelope, marked "Easter lilies" and you can drop the envelope off during in-person worship/communion or with the church office.

You can return this form from the printed bulletin or print a copy of the form from the electronic bulletin and include it in the envelope with your donation.

Remember to take your lily plant(s) on Easter Sunday or, if needed, make arrangements with the office to pick them up later in the week.

UPDATED WORSHIP SCHEDULE

For all in-person worship a reservation will be required.

At this time, a link to reserve in-person seats will be emailed each week prior to that week's service.

Sunday, March 21

Livestream Worship - 9AM
In-Person Worship* (In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM
In-Person Communion for those who watched the Livestream at home – 10 to 11AM
In-Person Worship* (In Gym w/Communion) – 11AM

Wednesday, March 24 – Lenten Midweek

(Lenten Midweek Devotion with liturgy, reading, devotion by Pastor)
Lenten Midweek Devotion (Zoom) – 6:30-7:00PM

Sunday, March 28 – Palm Sunday

Livestream Worship - 9AM
In-Person Worship* (In Gym) – 9AM
In-Person Worship* (In Gym) – 11AM

Contact the office if you have any questions about the schedule. Ushers, Readers, and various other volunteers are always needed for in-person worship and communion. If you are interested in volunteering for one of those roles, please contact the office at office@bethelgurnee.org.

*For in-person worship and/or communion in the gym, seating and/or communion will be physically distanced with masks required. For in-person worship there will be Live liturgy, readings, sermon, and prayers along with recorded hymns & music.