

Candlelight Service
Nelsonville Lutheran Church

September 25, 2025



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we have sinned against you
and our neighbors.**

**We have ignored voices
that call for your justice.**

**We have neglected actions
that witness to your righteousness.**

**We have spoken and acted
in ways that disrupt your beloved community.**

**We truly repent of things we have done
and left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Restore our troubled spirits,
so that we may live in newness,
follow the way of the Spirit,
and build up the body of Christ.**

Amen.

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad!

You are set free and restored to life through the death and resurrection of
Jesus Christ.

I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Absolution

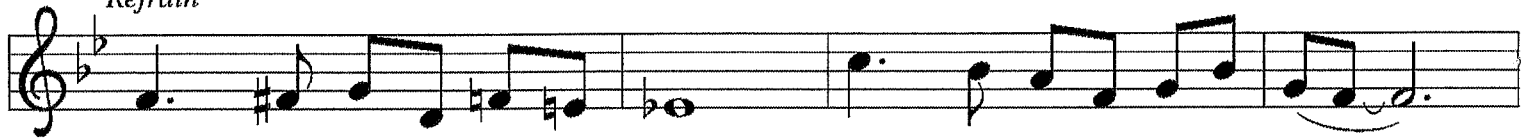
MB/GA

5 **Pastor:** God has
set you free **All:** we are free in - deed He has
9 paid the price for ³ us all. _____ God has
13 set us free we are free in - deed. A - men! _____

OPENING HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Refrain



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 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;

Refrain



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

Text: North American traditional

Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional © Public Domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ALL: Lord, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself. Through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us to seek the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

READINGS AND REFLECTION

Pastor Gretchen Anderson

(Two minutes of silence)

A bell will mark the beginning, the middle and the end of this time.

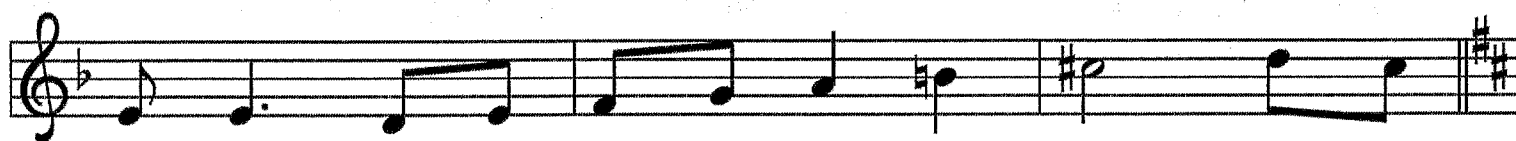
May God guide your thoughts and bless your meditations.

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Alone Be Praised



1 O - ceans rise, the coast-land trem-bles; moun-tains melt and dry earth
2 Na - tions rage, the em - pire fal - ters; seek-ing ref - uge, ex - iles
3 Come and see; God's mer - cy gath - ers all that sin and grief have



crum-bles. All the world with long - ing groans. Love a -
wan - der. Walls and weap - ons rise from fear. Through this
shat - tered. Life from fields of death is raised. Peace, be



bides, this gra - cious prom - ise is our help, our hope and
wil - der - ness a riv - er flows to heal and bless us
still; let pride - ful thun - der yield to songs of joy and



so - lace. God's strong word is sol - id ground.
ev - er. God the cru - ci - fied dwells here.
won - der. God and God a - lone be praised.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 46

Music: AD LUCEM, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979

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OFFERING

(As a spiritual discipline, ask the Holy Spirit to nudge you in offering yourself and a portion of God's many blessings God has given you for God's use in the church and world. A collection plate is available in the narthex of the church. To support the ministries during this pandemic time and as a response to God's love for you, consider using electronic giving at www.trchurch.org/electronic-giving.)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

PASTOR ENDS EACH PETITION WITH: MERCIFUL GOD

CONGREGATION RESPONDS WITH: WHOSE GOODNESS FAILETH NEVER

Prayers of the Church

MB/GA

5

Pastor: The

9

King of love my shep - herd is whose

good - ness fail - eth ne - ver.

13

(Pastor's prayers & petitions)

(P: Merciful God.)

19

repeat to m. 13 as necessary

24

Last X

28

All: The King of love my shep - herd

32

is whose good - ness fail - eth ne - ver

37

I noth - ing lack if I am his and

he is mine for - ev - er.

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Tonight we affirm and proclaim in the words of institution the truth ... One body. One cup. One Body of Christ. Please look for those responses within the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(A note about Holy Communion: Communion will be distributed to you where you sit. There is one cup divided with a small wafer on one end and the wine on the other. Instructions will be provided for each step.)

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

All: One body.

P: 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.

All: One cup.

P: Holy God, reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world, equipped to embody justice, peace and love.

All: One Body.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PASTOR: Remove the foil and receive ... the Body of Christ for you
Remove the foil and receive ... the Blood of Christ for you

Lamb of God

7 All: Lamb of God you take a -

11 way the sin of the world have mer -

15 cy u - pon us. Lamb of God you

19 take a - way the sin of the world

— you grant us peace.

Benediction

6 Pastor: God bless - es

10 and keeps you. See the bless - ings

14 be - side you. God lifts up your

rit. head and now smiles on you.

Amen

5 All: A -

9 men A - men A - men A - men A -

13 men A - men. _____ A -

men. _____

Detailed description: The musical score is written in 3/4 time. The first staff (measures 1-4) features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The lyrics 'All: A -' are aligned with the final measure. The second staff (measures 5-8) continues the melody with quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, A4. The lyrics 'men A - men A - men A - men A -' are aligned with these measures. The third staff (measures 9-12) features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The lyrics 'men A - men. _____ A -' are aligned with these measures. The fourth staff (measures 13-16) continues the melody with quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, A4. The lyrics 'men. _____' are aligned with these measures.