

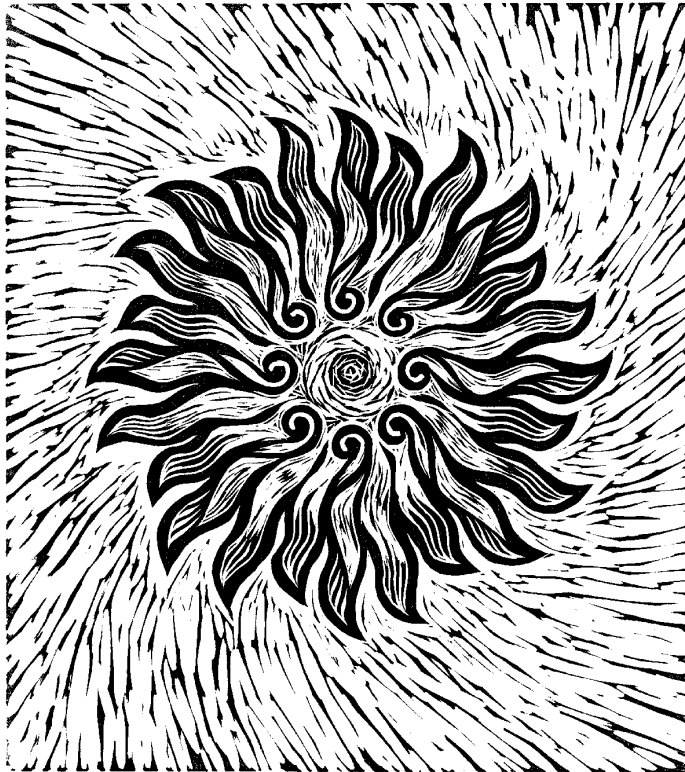
# **First Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Reverend Tracy S. Megli**

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**Second Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 18, 2026**

**9:30 am**



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *Mission Statement*

First Lutheran church **strives to inspire hope**  
for a wounded world;

**Gathers in worship**  
that both **uplifts** and **challenges**;

And **builds life-affirming relationships**  
inside and outside the walls of our building.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, First Lutheran Church  
welcomes all because God welcomes all,  
and we recognize that our differences are gifts to our communal life.

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

## JANUARY 18 , 2026

*Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7**

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel: John 1:29-42**

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

### **Prelude**

*Pastor Tracy Megli*

*Please stand when the (\*) indicates standing. Know the communion of Saints, both living & departed, stand for you if you should choose to remain seated for any reason.*

## **\*The Pastoral Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A: And also with you.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ✙ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.  
**Amen.**

# Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.  
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to  
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,  
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and  
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are  
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from  
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



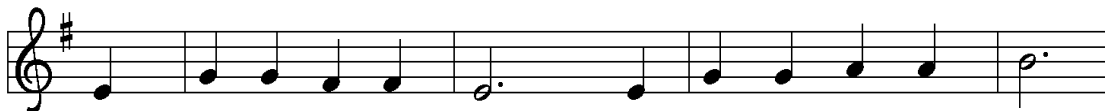
rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 pre - cious in your sight.  
 hill to val - ley flow.  
 king - dom with out end.

*Please be seated*

## **Children`s Time**

### **\*Kyrie**

*ELW Setting 10*



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## \* Gloria

*ELW Setting 10*



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## \*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

P: Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

## The First Reading

## Isaiah 49:1-7

- <sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands;  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The LORD called me before I was born;  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
in his quiver he hid me away.
- <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD  
and my reward with my God."
- <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says,  
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God has become my strength—
- <sup>6</sup> he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
- <sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,



“Kings shall see and stand up;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

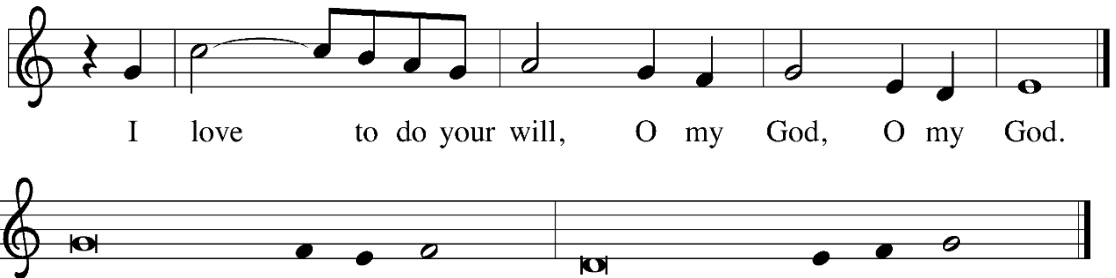
R: Word of God; Word of Life.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 40:1-11

*(sung responsively)*

*The accompanist will introduce the refrain, followed by the Cantor singing it once.  
Then the congregation sings it with the Cantor. R indicates repeat the refrain.*



- <sup>1</sup> I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,  
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.
- <sup>2</sup> **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the LORD.
- <sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!**  
**They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R**
- <sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God!  
In your plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!  
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!  
But they are more than | I can count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;  
you have opened my ears: burnt-offering  
and sin-offering you have | not required. R**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, "Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

<sup>8</sup> **'I love to do your will, | O my God;  
your law is | deep within me.' "**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;  
I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and  
truth from the | great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;  
may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe. **R**

## **The Second Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**R:** Word of God; Word of Life.

**A:** **Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Announcement of the Gospel Reading

*ELW Setting 10*



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St John.

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## \*The Reading of the Gospel

**John 1:29-42**

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"

<sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

## The Sermon

*We observe a brief silence for reflection*



**\*Hymn Of The Day**

*ELW 696*

**Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult**



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"  
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895

Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

## **\* The Apostle's Creed**

We now confess our faith with the whole Church in all times and places, using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness. Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.  
**Amen.**

### **\*The Peace**

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

**A: And also with you.**

P: Let us offer one another the sign of the Risen Christ's peace.

*As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome all because God welcomes all,  
and we recognize that our differences are gifts to our communal life.*

**Anthem**

*Down Galilee's Slow Roadways*

*Sylvia Dunstan  
& Bob Moore*

### **\*The Offering Prayer**

P: God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A: Amen.**

*The offering plates will be available on the table in the Narthex.  
Please place your offering there, as you leave.*



## \*The Great Thanksgiving

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are quarter notes, and the lyrics are written below the staves. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first measure. The third and fourth staves do not have double bar lines.

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*Holy, Holy, Holy

*ELW Setting 10*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*Words of Institution

**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.  
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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

## \*Lord's Prayer

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

A: **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.**

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

### \*Lamb of God

*ELW Setting 10*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## The Invitation to Communion

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

*Please come to the communion rail and kneel (or stand). We will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread, dip into the wine or white grape juice, then take and eat.*

## The Communion Music

*Lamb of God*

*ELW 336*



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

### **\*The Communion Blessing**

P: May the nourishment of the body and blood of our Savior  
Jesus Christ give you renewed strength and life.

A: **Amen.**

### **\*The Prayer After Communion**

P: Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: **Amen.**

## **Community Updates**

### **\*The Blessing**

P: May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✝ bless you now and forever.

A: **Amen.**

**\*Sending Song**

ELW 830

**How Marvelous God's Greatness**



- 1 How mar - vel - ous God's great - ness, how glo - ri - ous God's might!
- 2 Each ti - ny flow'r-et whis - pers the great life - giv - er's name;
- 3 The o - cean's vast a - byss - es in one grand psalm re - cord
- 4 The star - ry hosts are sing - ing through all the light - strewn sky



To this the world bears wit - ness in won - ders day and night:  
the might - y moun - tain mass - es his maj - es - ty pro - claim;  
the deep mys - ter - ious coun - sels and mer - cies of the Lord;  
of God's ma - jes - tic tem - ple and pal - ace courts on high;



in form of flow'r and snow - flake, in morn's re - splen - dent birth,  
the val - leys deep are hymn - ing God's shel - ter for his own;  
the ic - y waves of win - ter are thun - d'ring on the strand;  
when in these out - er cham - bers such glo - ry gilds the night,



in af - ter - glow at eve - ning, in sky and sea and earth.  
the snow-capped peaks are point - ing to God's al - might - y throne.  
and grief's chill stream is guid - ed by God's all - gra - cious hand.  
oh, what tran - scen - dent bright - ness is God's e - ter - nal light!

Text: Valdimar Briem, 1848–1930; tr. Charles V. Pilcher, 1879–1961, alt.

Music: DEN BLOMSTERID NU KOMMER, *Koralpsalmboken*, Stockholm, 1697

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## **\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

*Sweet Sweet Spirit*

*Doris Akers*

*Arr: Clayton J Foor*

## **Worship Assistants**

Reader & Communion Assistant: *Kathy Seymour*

Crucifer: *George Otey*      Usher(s): *George Otey*

Music Director: *Clayton Foor*

Cantor: *Rona Erickson*

ELW 336

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Music: Twila Paris

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YOUR ONLY SON

LMD

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