

## Events This Week - January 17-24, 2021

### Sunday 1/17 Epiphany 2

10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only

### Monday 1/18

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry

7:00 pm - AA Meeting - Social Hall

### Tuesday 1/19

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry

### Wednesday 1/20

9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry

7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

### Thursday 1/21

### Friday 1/22

10:30 am - Grace Stitches

### Saturday 1/23

### Sunday 1/24 Epiphany 3

10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2021



## Grace Lutheran Church

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Office: 609-927-3082 † Fax: 609-927-6672 † Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Website: [www.gracelutheranspnj.org](http://www.gracelutheranspnj.org)

Alternate web address: [www.gracelutheran.xyz](http://www.gracelutheran.xyz)

Email: [office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net)

**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Althea Albright

**Music Director:** Scott J. Breiner

**Church Secretary:** Diana McArdle

**Sexton:** Andrew McCarrick

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service

# Welcome

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

## Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to **belong** to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who **believe** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to **become** caring servants of God in the world.

### Serving in Worship Today—

**Worship Assistant:** Linda Rihl

**Altar Guild:**

Brenda Traa, Ruth Traa

**Sound Technician:**

Jim Foreman /Larry Rusiecki

### In Our Hearts and Prayers

**Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving Our Country:** Members & Friends of Grace: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USMC; Sara Myers, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

**Hospitalized - or in need of healing:** Ruth, David, & Ric Alburger, Mary Ellen Bartholomew, June Becker, Shirley Blankenship, Carol Campbell, Dr. Robert Carlson, Ed Carpenter, Christine Carter, Peg Cwienk, Roy Cole, Deb Connelly, Emile DeLong, Tad Dildilian, Kimberly Frawley, Ed Gannon, Jeanne Gehring, Chris Hinnant, Bob & Dona-Lee Hughes, Pat Johnson, Darryl Kashey, Terry Kearney, Carol Traa Keates, Nancy Keirse, Jim Kohl, Darrell Kopp, Ruth Kruger, Judith & Roger Landis, Bob Loper, Susan Marich, Quinn Meldrum, Anne Moore, Tom Ostrander, Tommy Parker, Renee Pugliese, LouAnn Rest, Indigo Rose, Alan Sisson, Dana Sisson, Judy Toth, Bob Traa, Grace DiGenni Traa, Carol-Ann Tracy, Skip Uhrmann, George Walters, Joan Wisdom, & Lucy Dildilian Yannis

**At Home -** Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

**Shores@Wesley Manor:** Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

**Rehab@Shores of Wesley Manor:** Lois Rahme

**Woodview Estates:** Lorraine Moore

#### In Memory

Bill Carney (1/10/2021)

## Faith on the Go



Gracious God, we praise and thank you for the good things you have given to us. Call us to be generous with what we have, call us to be merciful and loving. Call us to action in our communities and world. Amen



How did you listen for God this week?  
How did you show your faith this week?



John 1:43-51—Jesus Calls Philip and Nathaniel

Day 1

John 1:43

“Follow Me.” A simple phrase. We hear it when we ask for help looking for something. What do you think Philip was looking for?

Day 2

John 1:44-46

“Come and see.” Name something that you needed to see to believe. What do you believe without seeing?

Day 3

John 1:47

What do you think that it means to have no deceit?

Day 4

John 1:48-50

What helps you believe? Hearing the stories? Seeing amazing works?

Day 5

John 1:51

What Gospel story do you think Jesus is talking about when he describes angels ascending and descending?



*God calls you by name.*

Weekly Household Devotions    **Second Sunday After Epiphany**  
 Year B - Lectionary 2  
 January 14-20



I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
 and I will glorify your name for ever.

Psalm 86:12

**Looking Back . . .**

<b>Sunday</b>	John 1:43-51	Jesus Calls Philip and Nathaniel
<b>Monday</b>	Psalm 86	Supplication for Help Against Enemies
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Samuel 9:27-10:8	Samuel Anoints Saul
<b>Wednesday</b>	Luke 18:15-17	Jesus Blesses Little Children

**Looking Ahead . . .**

<b>Thursday</b>	Psalm 62:5-12	Song of Trust in God Alone
<b>Friday</b>	2 Peter 3:1-7	The Promise of the Lord's Coming
<b>Saturday</b>	Luke 10:13-16	Woes to Unrepentant Cities
<b>Sunday</b>	Mark 1:14-20	The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry



What is your calling? **1 Samuel 3:1-10 and John 1:43-51**

Or even more what is a "calling"?

Is it something that you just like to do, or something that you are good at? Is it something that brings you both struggle and joy?

What about your calling as a follower of Jesus, or a believer in God?

These two passages can lead us to look for the big choices in life. Should you be a teacher, or a lawyer, or a pastor, or a musician, etc. And how will I serve God in that call? These are really good questions, but this week let's think small.

What are you called to do in this season? This month? This week?

What are you called to do today?

Sit with your household and talk about what each of you can do to live out your faith in small ways every day. Talk about how you can be more kind to each other, and talk about how you can show love to the people you meet. Come up with a top 5 list for each—5 ways to be kind to each other, and 5 ways to be more loving to the people you meet. Write them on a piece of paper and hang them in a central place, like the fridge. Make a ritual out of reading them together every day this week.



Did you miss a week? Download inserts at our website!



**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Holy Communion**

\*Please stand as you are able—\* Congregation responses in bold print.

**Gathering**

**WELCOME**

Rev. Althea Albright

**PRELUDE**

*Here I Am Lord*

by Robert Buckley Farlee

*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us come together to worship the Messiah, our God and King!

**We come to worship the Savior of the world. We come to worship the Messiah.**

Jesus promised to be wherever two or more are gathered. Christ is with us now.

God calls us to turn back his love and mercy for us.

**We turn to God, our merciful Redeemer. We are thankful for Jesus, Emmanuel, who comes to change the world.**

Let us worship together as we meet with Jesus in this place. **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Almighty God, you know us inside and out. You are always with us and you never leave us or forsake us. We cannot escape your love. You formed us and you know us before we were born. You watch over us and always hear our prayers. We come before you now wanting to hear your voice. Forgive us for the times we have turned away from you and bring us closer to your Spirit once again. **Amen.**

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

God of Love, **We confess that we have turned away from you. We have trouble trusting your promises for us. We let worry and fear overwhelm us. We do not always treat our neighbors with the love that you call us to give. For the sake of your Son, have mercy on us. Forgive us for our shortcomings, refresh us in this new year, and lead us in the way of Christ, so that we may glorify your holy name in all that we say and do. Amen.**

God so loved the world that he sent, Christ to save us and redeem our sinful ways.

As a minister of the church of Christ, I declare to you that through Christ, God forgives you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. God loves us beyond all understanding. Come back to God's loving arms, with joyful hearts, ready to accept God's gift of grace. **Amen.**

## \*GATHERING HYMN

O Zion, Haste

ELW # 668

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
 2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion  
 3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;  
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;  
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion  
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,



## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The items needed are **Crackers**, Jelly, Pancake mix & Syrup, Toilet Paper, **Cold Cereals**, **Cookies and Snacks**, **RICE**, instant mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, **canned peas & corn**, **baked beans**, **soup**, **canned chicken or turkey**, **canned fruit**, & **canned meals (e.g., Beef stew)**.

Personal items are also greatly appreciated: bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc. Thank you for supporting this vital ministry in our community.

**POSTPONED:-(**



# Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 7, 2020

11:30 am - Fellowship Hall

Following Worship Service @ 10:15 am

Budget Distribution - Sunday, January 24th, 2021

Budget Hearing - Sunday, January 31, 2021



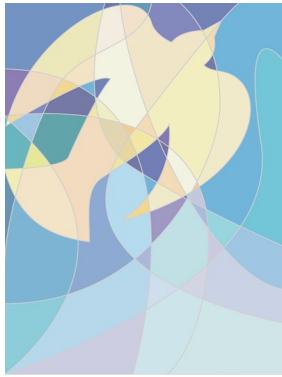
## Spirit, Guide Us

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Sunday, January 17, 2021

*right after 10:15AM worship in the*

*Fellowship Hall*



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.  
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.  
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

*Refrain*

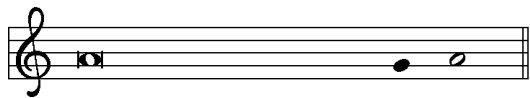
Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923  
Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Welch, 1837-1901

**\*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.**

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



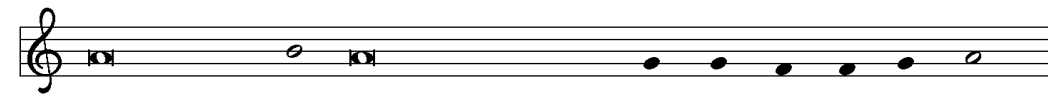
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



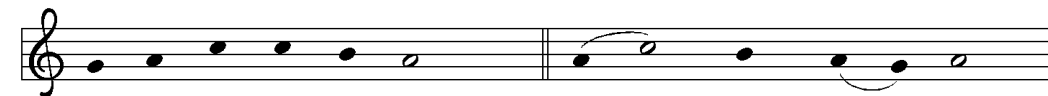
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

**SENDING HYMN**

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW # 310



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;  
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,



# Sending

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## SENDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Dear God, in this time of holy worship you have refreshed us. Guide our lives with your holy Word. Bring joy back into our journey with you. Send us forth now as witnesses of the Good News of your birth, that we also may be light for the world, in the name of Jesus, the Messiah. **Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

May God bless you and keep you. Know that God is always by your side.

May Jesus' love guide and inspire you in all you do. May the Holy Spirit shine in you and bring others closer to God's love and ✠ give you joy! **Amen**

## \*SENDING HYMN

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW # 310

*Please be seated for the postlude.*

*Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.*

## POSTLUDE

*Angelic Songs*

by Mark Sedio

## \*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace and serve our Messiah with love for others!

**Thanks be to God!**

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## \*CANTICLE

Glory to God

ELW page 148

5



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.... **Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Word

**FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10**

*At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Almighty God, **You bless us with all that we have. You have blessed our lives forever with the love of your Son and your gift of grace. Empower us to change the lives of others with your Good News. Bless our congregation, this community, and all the offerings we give back to you for your holy work, through Jesus Christ, our Messiah. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Pastor:* Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Leader:* For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

*Leader:* For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

*Leader:* For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

*Pastor:* For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound (*especially*), that God console all who suffer, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

*Leader:* For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.  
**Have mercy, O God.**

*Pastor:* Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**



**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

**OFFERING**

Please place your offering in the offering plates,  
located at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

**OFFERTORY**

*Arise, Shine*

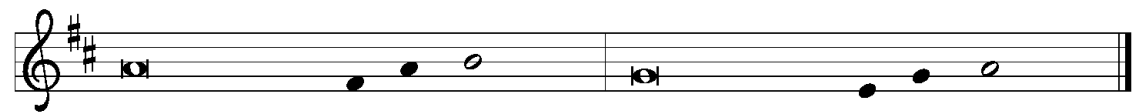
by F. C. Maker

Tenor: Charles Bowden

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

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 un-to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**Psalm: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you have | searched me out; / O LORD, you | have known me.

<sup>2</sup>**You know my sitting down and my | rising up;  
you discern my thoughts | from afar.**

<sup>3</sup>You trace my journeys and my | resting-places / and are acquainted with | all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>**Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips, / but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.**

<sup>5</sup>You encompass me, behind | and before, / and lay your | hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>**Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me; / it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.**

<sup>13</sup>For you yourself created my | inmost parts; /you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>**I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;  
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.**

<sup>15</sup>My body was not hid- | den from you,

while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written | in your book;**

**my days were fashioned before they | came to be.**

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your | thoughts, O God! / How great is the | sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>**If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;  
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.**

**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.*

<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 spiritual 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 him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

**\*GOSPEL: John 1:43-51**

*In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."*

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

<sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

**SERMON**

Rev. Althea Albright



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin - est bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.