

**8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**February 12, 2023**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

Rev. Paul Swartz is a Lutheran Pastor in “Re-Firement.” He has served churches in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana; developed a new congregation; served as an Assistant to the Bishop of the Ohio Synod, LCA; is an Emeriti Board member of his alma mater, Wittenberg University, and is the author of several journal articles.

The Lily Endowment awarded him a Clergy Renewal grant that enabled him to study and trace Luther’s steps in Germany. He is enjoying combining his vocation with his avocation stamp collecting and is anxious to complete a book on Martin Luther, “A Life Stamped, Cancelled and Delivered” which will be “illustrated philatelically” from his vast world-wide Luther/Reformation Collection. That project was sidelined when its research began to reveal striking similarities between the reformer and The President which led to this publication. Having a son, now deceased and a daughter, Paul and his wife, Betty of 57 years, reside in Carmel, Indiana.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE: “Come Down, O Love Divine” – M. Casner**

### BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

*During the Confession you may either stand or kneel as you are able.*

P: We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of resurrection life, we come before you today as those who would die to sin and rise to newness of life.

**C: Lower into the grave all selfishness, greed, and envy, all harmful desires and unworthy ambitions.**

P: Raise from death the good that is in us -- and gift us with the good that is not in us.

**C: Help us to love neighbors, strangers, and those we do not even like.**

P: We have failed you.

**C: We have failed our world.**

P: Give us the skill and the desire to bring healing into this world.

**C: Forgive us the sins we can name and the sins we cannot name.**

*(Silence to ponder our wrongs.)*

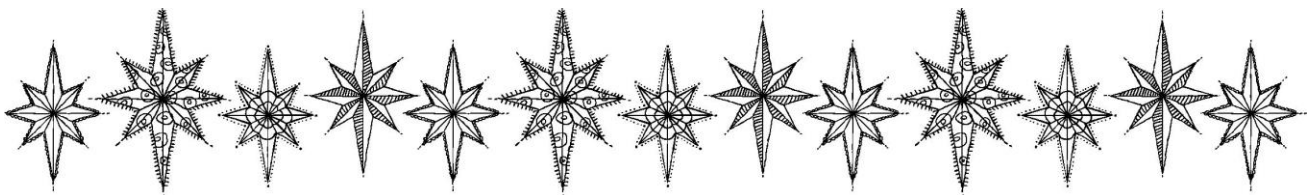
P: Lord, make us channels of blessing for the impoverished and injured souls of this world.

**C: In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

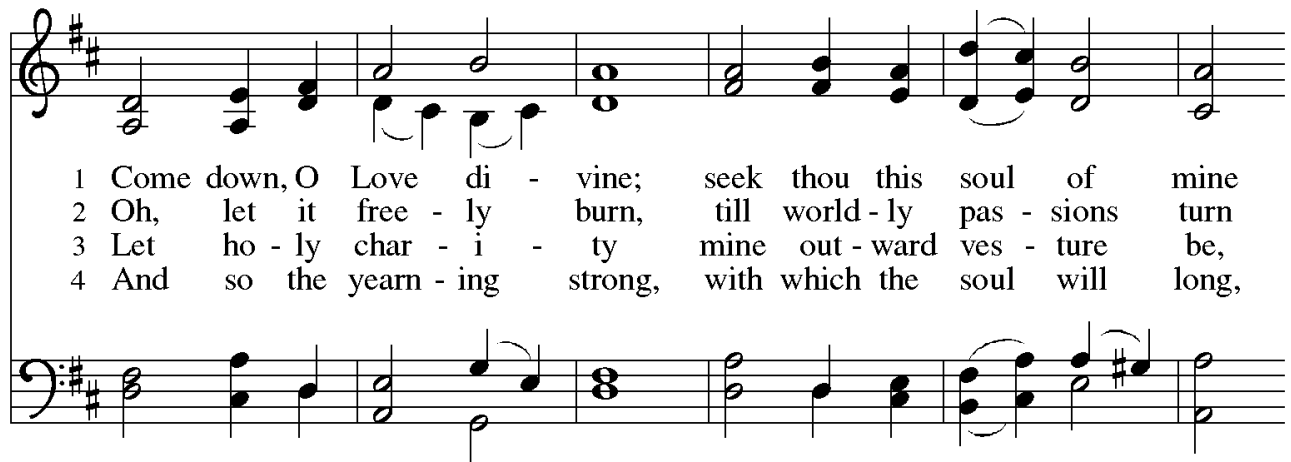
### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

P: As the Apostle Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died—so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.

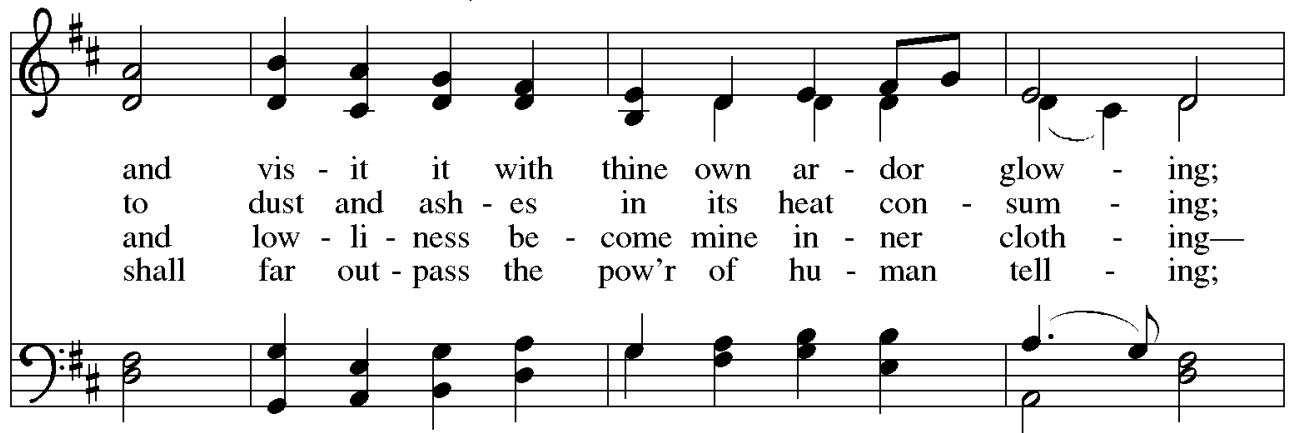
**C: Amen.**



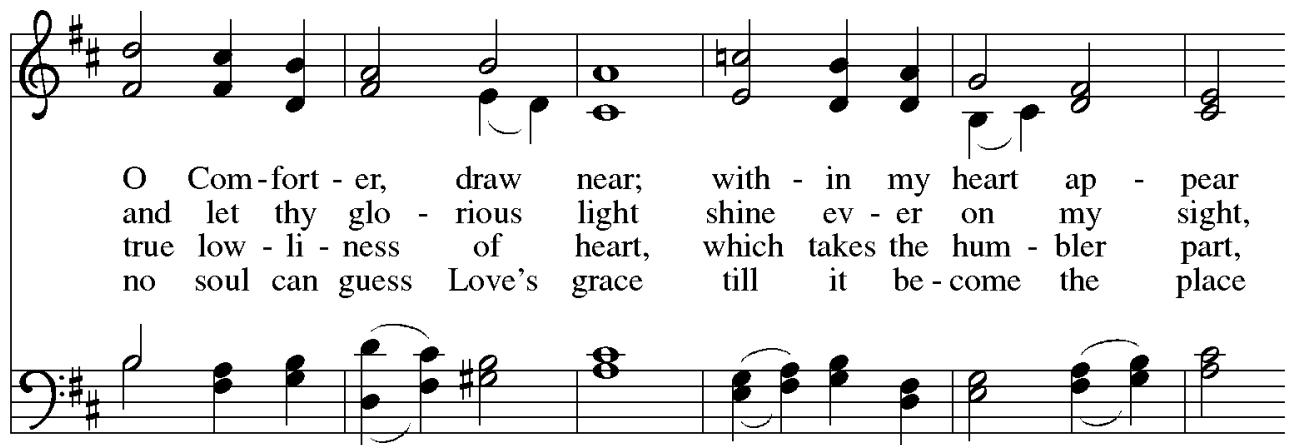
## GATHERING HYMN: "Come Down, O Love Divine"



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine  
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,  
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—  
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,  
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

**APOSTOLIC GREETING:**

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

C. And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



**B** 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



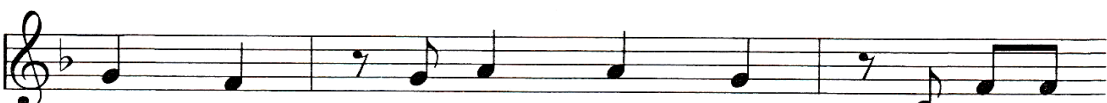
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



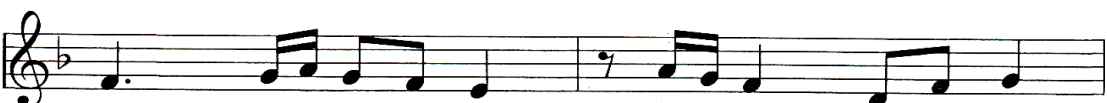
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;



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:**

P. The Lord be with you

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray

**O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**READINGS FOR TODAY**

**FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

*See back of bulletin*

**PSALM 119:1-8** - *Spoken responsively, the Pastor speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold** print.*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose way is blameless,  
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they who observe your decrees  
and seek you with all their hearts,**

<sup>3</sup>who never do any wrong,  
but always walk in your ways.

<sup>4</sup>**You laid down your commandments,  
that we should fully keep them.**

<sup>5</sup>Oh, that my ways were made so direct  
that I might keep your statutes!

<sup>6</sup>**Then I should not be put to shame,  
when I regard all your commandments.**

<sup>7</sup>I will thank you with a true heart,  
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

<sup>8</sup>**I will keep your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

*see back of bulletin*

*Please stand as you are able*

**GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 5:21-37**

*see back of bulletin*

**C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading of the Gospel:*

P. The Gospel of the Lord"

**C. Praise to you O Christ.**

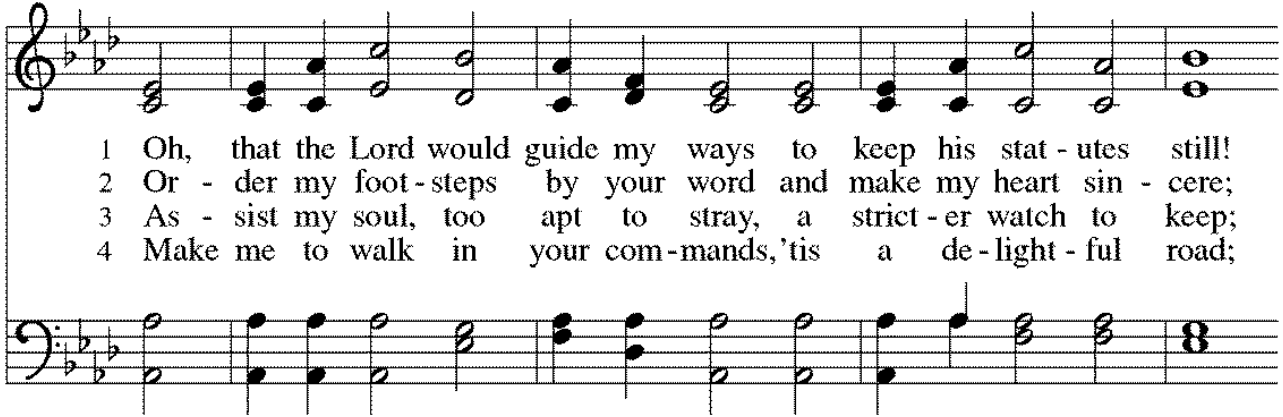
*Sit*

**SERMON:**

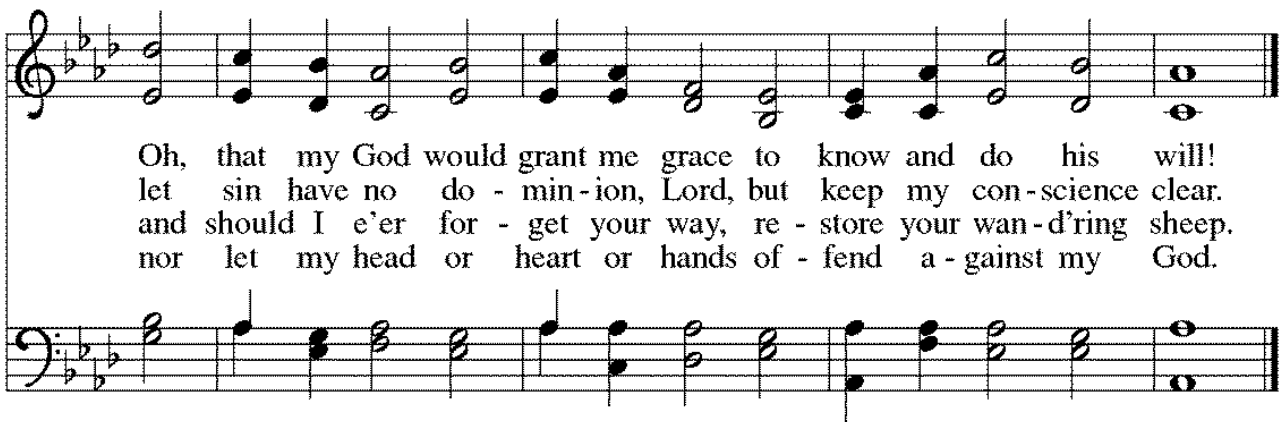
**Rev. Paul Swartz**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"**



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!  
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;  
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;  
 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
 Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**C: 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**

Sit

## CHOIR ANTHEM: "Day By Day" – Martin How

*Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
to see thee more clearly,  
love thee more dearly,  
follow thee more nearly,  
day by day.*

-- Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

Please stand as you are able

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

P. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*After each prayer:*

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:

*(The offering is presented as the Offertory is sung by the congregation.)*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and  
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER:

P. Merciful Father,

**C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## COMMUNION LITURGY

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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**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.**

*Sit*

## HOLY COMMUNION:

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

“What Songs Were Sung” – J. J. Niles (Gavin Foley, Soloist)

*Please stand as you are able*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**



**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

P. Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

**BENEDICTION:**

P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

**SENDING HYMN: “Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”**

1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -  
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,  
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!  
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;  
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -  
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,  
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.  
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.  
 Music: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.  
 Text © Oxford University Press

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**DISMISSAL:**

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE: Fanfare – W. Mathias**

**Today's altar flowers are given by Romel & Anitha Christopher  
 in honor of Rivaldo's birthday.**