

GATHERING MUSIC

**"Ballad of Lord Jesus" - Robert Graham**

PICARDY

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Prepare a way for the Lord! **Clear a pathway!**

The valleys and mountains will be leveled, **everyone will see it.**

Prepare a way for the Lord! **Clear a pathway!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We confess our sins before God and one another.

God of light,

**You light a fire within us and ask us to shine, but we are quick to hide and make excuses. We shrink from challenges, avoid responsibility, and deny the goodness of your creation. We seek hollow praise and then don't believe it. Forgive us for hiding our God-given light and remaining self-absorbed.**

Children of God, never fear, for you have always lived in the mercy of your creator. Hear the words of absolution and believe them: you are forgiven, you are made whole, you are restored to God. Hallelujah! **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY    The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

God of truth,

Through John you challenged your people to repent. **Move us also to put aside the things that get in the way of truly serving you, for the sake of Jesus our savior. Amen.**

ACCLAMATION

**"Come, Beloved of the Maker"**

JILL

*Come, beloved of the Maker,  
come, behold the Firstborn One;  
see revealed creation's splendor  
crowned in glory like the sun.*

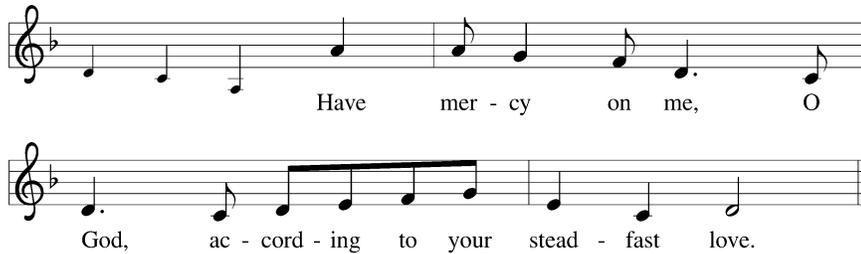
Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Vicar Amber Kalina

READING: **Psalm 51:6-17**



Psalm 51:1

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6 Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.

7 Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit. **Refrain**

13 Let me teach your ways to offenders,  
and sinners shall be restored to you.

14 Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my  
salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your  
righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

16 For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give  
it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.

17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not  
despise. **Refrain**

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke**

PREACHING TEXT: **Luke 3:1-22**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

OFFERING

*Through your donations we are able to support the ministries of Geneva Lutheran Church including snow plowing and snow shoveling. Ten percent of all offerings go beyond our walls supporting our community locally, nationally and internationally.*

*There are many ways you can give - put a check in the mail,  
text: 630-528-2407 with a dollar amount or give online <https://bit.ly/3jErAR5>*

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Tender Moment” - Alexander Gretchaninoff

Matt Slifka, piano

*We welcome Sutton Cochran, daughter of Kevin and Schyler Cochran  
who joined us through the waters of baptism on December 23, 2020*

People of God, do you promise to support Sutton and her family and pray for her new life in Christ? **We do.**

## APOSTLES CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God?

**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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

PRAYERS After each petition: God of power, **Hear our prayer.**

## 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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION

## HYMN

## "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you  
 2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant  
 3 Straight-way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the  
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as  
 true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's  
 call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to  
 signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.  
 ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.  
 give your life for all, to give your life for all.  
 per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING MUSIC

**LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN - arr. David Cherwin**