St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

711 & 805 W 5th St., Neillsville, WI 54456

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Installation of Pastor Timothy Walsh

July 12, 2026

Christ Provides His Church with Faithful Shepherds

WELCOME

AS WE GATHER

The Lord invites believers to take part in his kingdom work. What a joy and privilege it is for us to work in his harvest fields, to witness the power of the Spirit, and to support this ministry! And what a blessing the Lord gives us through the work of pastors, who have been rightly called by God through the Church into the office of the holy ministry.

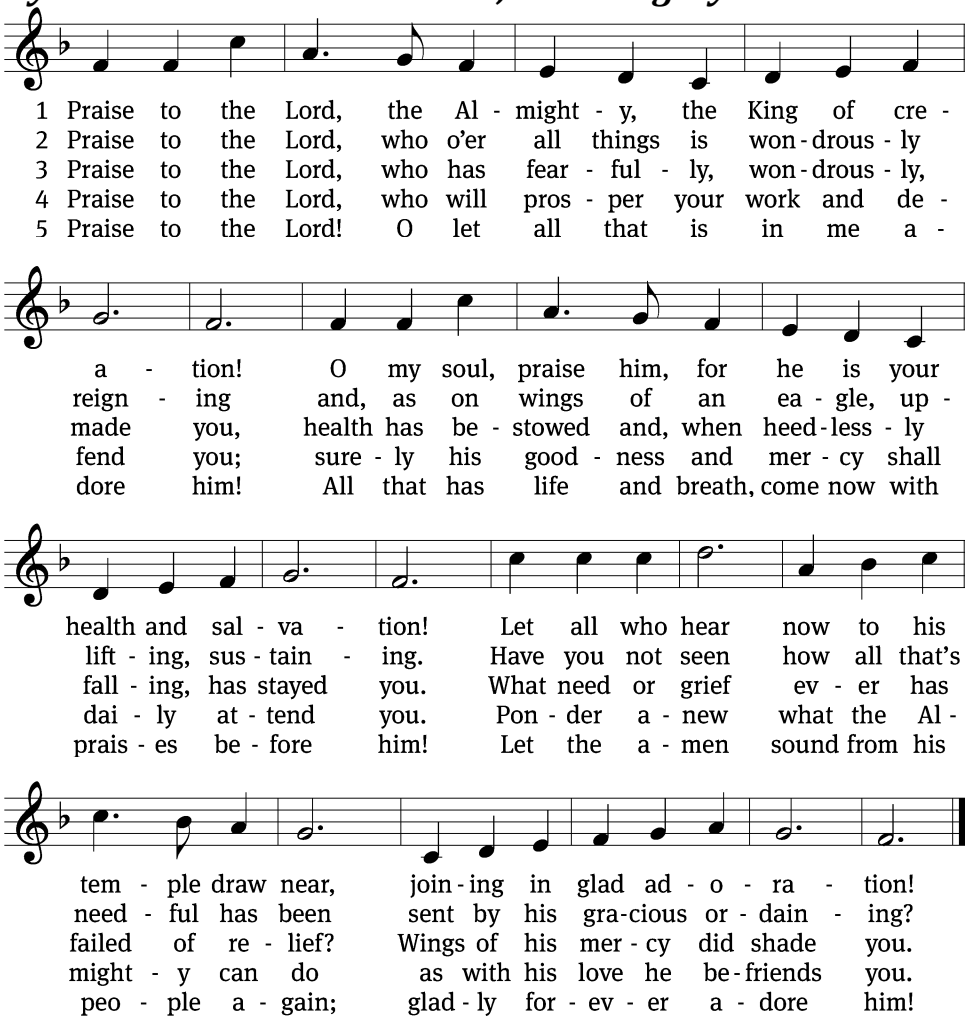
Today we install Timothy Walsh as a shepherd (the word *pastor* means "shepherd") under the Good Shepherd, and of the congregation of St. John's in Neillsville.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Merciful God, we humbly implore you to cast the bright beams of your light upon your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ GATHERING +

Hymn 624 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt
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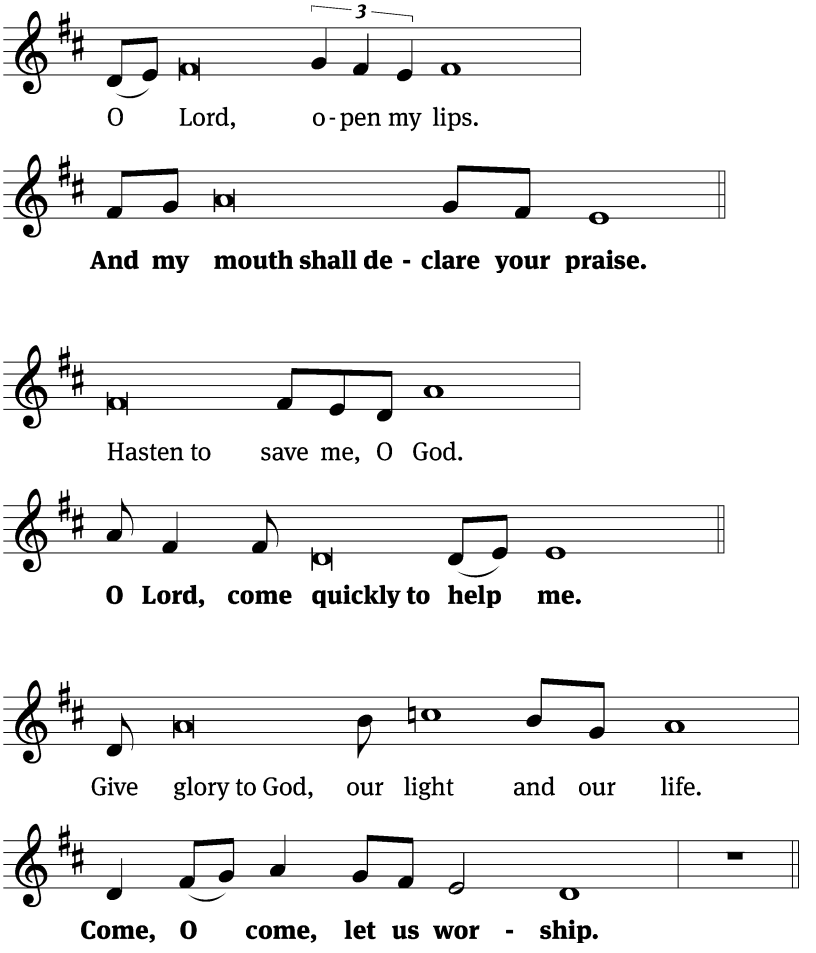
Stand

Opening Sentences

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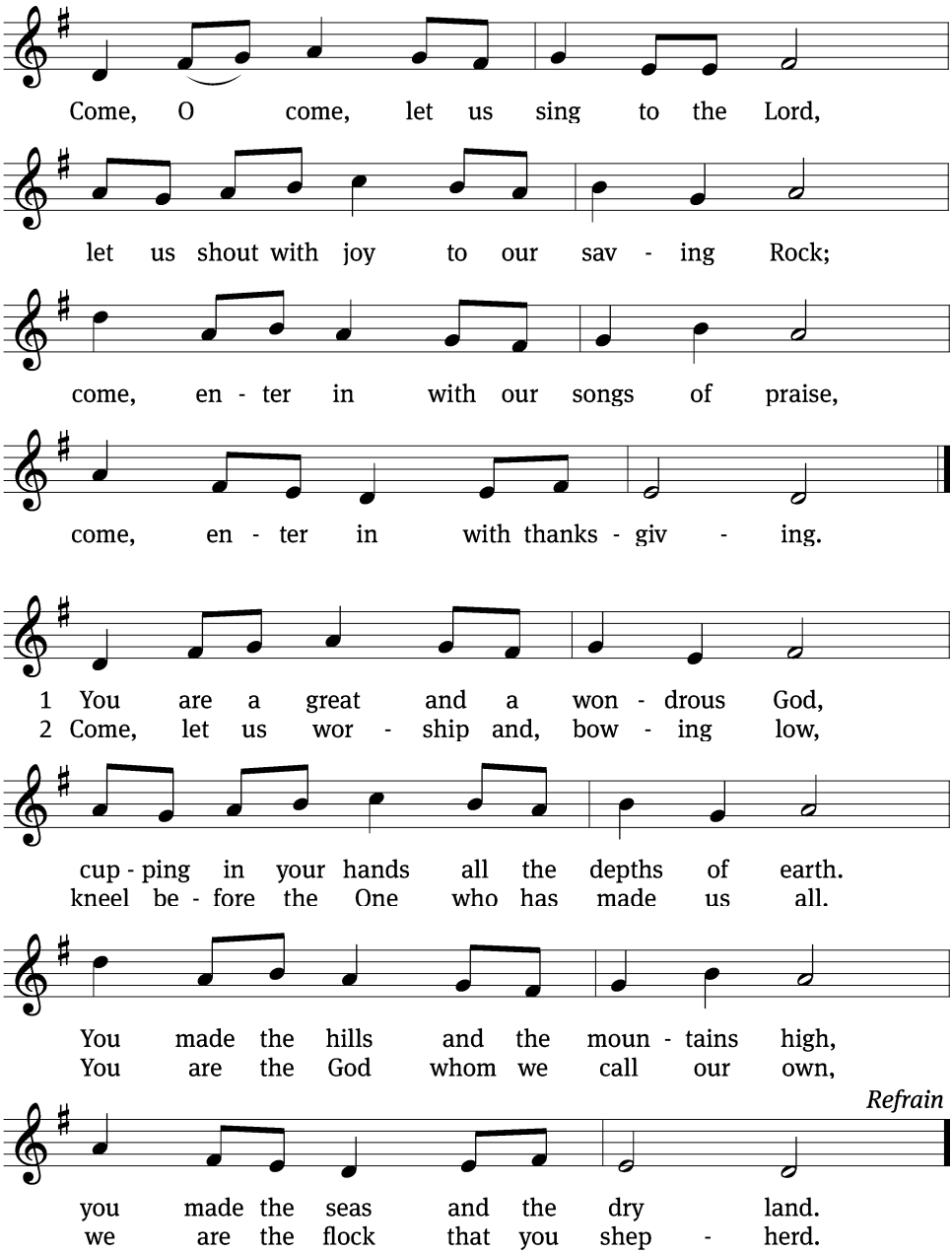
Come, O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

Refrain *Cantor/choir first time; assembly repeats, then sings after each verse*

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on those whom you have called to minister to your people. Fill them with doctrine, and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may joyfully serve to the glory of your name and for the benefit of your Church; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading *Ezekiel 2:1–7*

1 He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to
you." 2 As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and
I heard him speaking to me.
3 He said: "Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious
nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been
in revolt against me to this very day. 4 The people to whom I am sending
you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign
LORD says.' 5 And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a
rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them.
6 And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be
afraid, though briers and thorns are all around you and you live among
scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or be terrified by them,
though they are a rebellious people. 7 You must speak my words to them,
whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Dialogue

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,
Galatians 3:26,27
For all of us who were baptized into Christ have clothed ourselves with Christ.

Live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.
We will make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism;

One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service,
So that the body of Christ may be built up

Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. *Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13*
How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! *Psalm 133:1*

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD.
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD.
Psalm 134:1,2

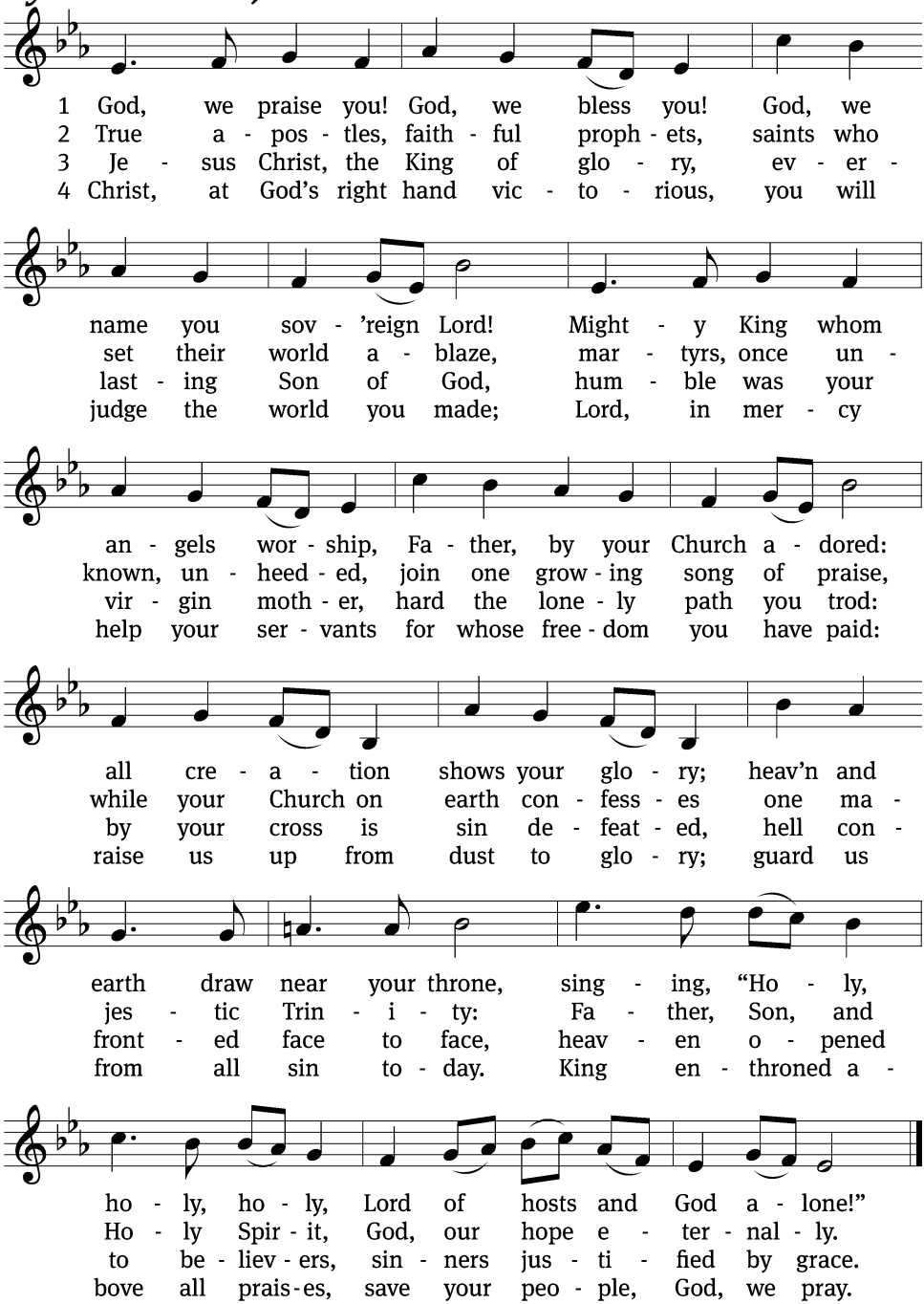
Second Reading *2 Timothy 3:10—4:5*

10You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, 11persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. 12In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn 971 God, We Praise You



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Gospel *Luke 10:1–12, 16–20*

[1]After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two
by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.
[2]He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the
Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.
[3]Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. [4]Do not take a purse
or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

[5]"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' [6]If someone
who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will
return to you. [7]Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you,
for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to
house.

[8]"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to
you. [9]Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has
come near to you.' [10]But when you enter a town and are not welcomed,
go into its streets and say, [11]'Even the dust of your town we wipe from
our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has
come near.' [12]I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom
than for that town.

[16]"Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects
me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me."

[17]The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons
submit to us in your name."

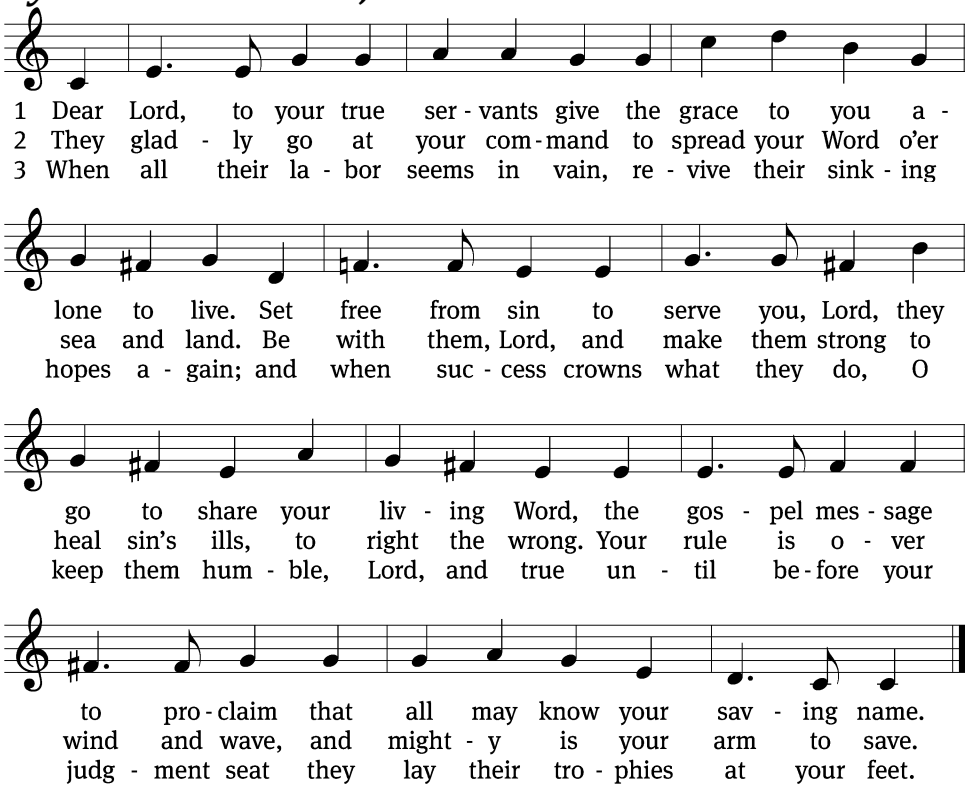
[18]He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. [19]I have
given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to
overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. [20]However,
do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names
are written in heaven."

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

Sermon: "Feed the Sheep, Fed by the Good Shepherd"

(We thank Pastor Matthew Krenke from Bethany Lutheran in Appleton for delivering the sermon today.)

Stand

Hymn 896 Dear Lord, To Your True Servants Give

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Installation of Pastor Timothy Walsh

Address to Congregation

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ said to his church: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

In his great love, our risen and ascended Lord has established the gospel ministry and promises to provide his church with qualified servants to lead his people in carrying out this commission. St. Paul wrote to the Ephesians: "[Christ] ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe. So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Address to Pastor Walsh

Dear brother, the Lord Jesus and this congregation have called you to serve in the pastoral ministry. It is good for you to hear the Lord's will concerning this calling.

St. Paul wrote that a pastor must be "above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap."

Paul urged Timothy to "set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." He further advised him: "Devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers."

The apostle gave these additional words of encouragement: “Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. Keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.”

In all your tasks and responsibilities, our Lord Jesus equips you with the gospel of the forgiveness of sins, the gift that makes you truly competent as a servant of Christ. St. Paul wrote: “Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.”

Vows by Pastor Walsh
In keeping with the Word and will of the Lord, I ask you before God and his people:

Do you believe that the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
I do.

Do you accept the three Ecumenical Creeds—the Apostles’, the Nicene, and the Athanasian—because they are faithful testimonies to the truth of the Holy Scriptures, and do you reject all the errors that they condemn?
I do.

Do you accept the Unaltered Augsburg Confession along with the other confessions in the Book of Concord: the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Small and Large Catechisms of Martin Luther, the Smalcald Articles, and the Formula of Concord, because they are true expositions of the Word of God and correct presentations of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church?
I do.

Do you solemnly promise that all your teaching and your administration of the sacraments will conform to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions?
I do.

Are you willing to carry out the work entrusted to you according to the grace that God gives?
I am, and I ask God to help me.

Will you endeavor to live a life that reflects the love God has for you so that all may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven?
I will, and I ask God to help me.

The almighty God, who has given you the desire to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Congregational Encouragement and Promise
Brothers and sisters, you have heard the promises spoken by the pastor you have called. I encourage you to receive him with joy and remember what the Word of God calls you to do.

Listen eagerly to the preaching of the Word and receive it not as the word of men but as the Word of God.

Work together with him for the Lord's kingdom, so that your shared service may bring spiritual blessings to the Savior's people.

Keep him and his work in your prayers, so that his ministry may be blessed and that he may carry out his work with joy.

Provide for his physical needs, for the Savior said, "The worker deserves his wages."

Honor and love him, as St. Paul urged: "Acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."
I now ask you in the presence of God:

Are you willing to receive your pastor as a servant of Christ? Will you show him love and honor and support him with your gifts and prayers? If so, answer: We will, and we ask God to help us.
We will, and we ask God to help us.

The almighty and merciful God strengthen you to do what you have promised.

Installation
Timothy Walsh, I install you as pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord pour out on you his Holy Spirit for the work you have been called to do that you may faithfully carry out all your duties and responsibilities with the Word of God as your confidence and guide.

Blessings from Fellow Pastors

Prayer
Let us pray.
Lord God, gracious Father, you send pastors to serve your people in the ministry of the gospel. Fill your servant with your Holy Spirit that he may carry out this ministry despite his weaknesses and faults. Lead and guide him with your power and love, encourage him as he proclaims the Word and administers the sacraments, and make him a blessing to all those he serves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen *(spoken by congregation)***.**

Go, then, dear brother, and take up the work to which you have been called.

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, working in you what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Stand

Prayer
Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen. *(spoken by congregation)*

Lord's Prayer
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing - Glorify Thy Name

Verse 1 will be sung by a special choir group. Congregation joins on Verse 2.

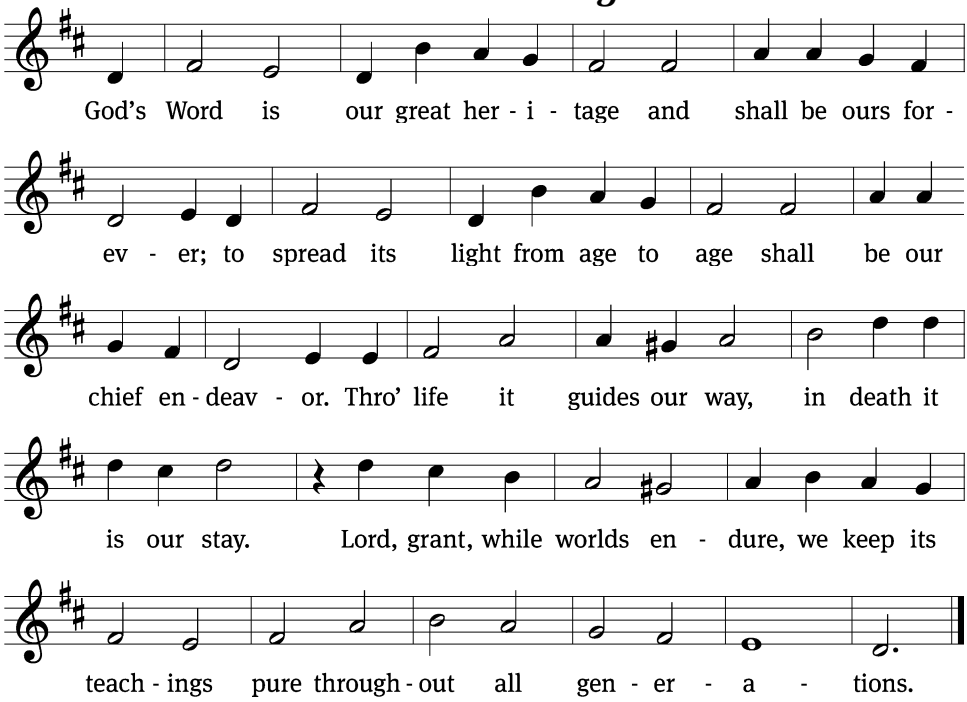
1. Father we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

2. Jesus we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

3. Spirit we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

4. *(Congregation Hums while pastor speaks the blessing)*

Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

640 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, alt.
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924
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Morning Prayer (alternate) from Christian Worship
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Tim Walsh bio

Pastor Tim Walsh grew up in Clearwater, Florida. His family moved to Wisconsin during his high school years, and he graduated from Luther High in Onalaska. He graduated from Martin Luther College in 2016, and from there, went to teach English at Colegio B. Group in Callao (Lima), Peru. After returning to the US, Tim taught Spanish at Wisconsin Lutheran High School in Milwaukee and began studying at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Ruth Walsh (née Wendland) grew up in Malawi (Africa) in a missionary family. She attended Luther Prep, and graduated from Martin Luther College in 2015. She taught in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, and Hustisford, Wisconsin.

Tim and Ruth married in July 2017. They have three children: Eliana (born in Wisconsin, September 2018), Henry (born in Virginia, April 2020), and Levi (born in New York, April 2024).

Pastor Walsh's favorite aspect of ministry is teaching. He is excited to work with the faculty and students of St. John's School. Personally, he enjoys board and card games, cooking, and exploring his community.

While Pastor Walsh loves the whole Bible (of course!), he is particularly fond of Jesus' parables (as any teacher ought to be), and of the Psalms. Psalm 3 is a particular favorite:
"But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the LORD, and he answers me from his holy mountain."

WELS ministries where Pastor Walsh has previously served:

- Wisconsin Lutheran High School, Milwaukee WI
    - Spanish I instructor
- Trinity Lutheran, Waukesha WI
    - Seminary assistant for Spanish outreach
- Grace Lutheran Church, Grace Christian Academy, and Iglesia Gracia y Paz, Falls Church VA
    - Vicar
- St. John's Lutheran, Dodge County WI
    - Summer vicar *and* seminary senior assistant
- Grace of God Lutheran, Dix Hills NY
    - Home missionary
- Academia Cristo
    - Remote study instructor

Welcome to St. John's

Pastor, Ruth, Eliana, Henry & Levi!