

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"

Fourth Sunday
after The Epiphany
January 31, 2021

The Holy Eucharist
The Word of God



Prelude *Voluntary "Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*
Hymn tune: 'Azmon' Greg Bottomley

Processional Hymn (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8*

#535 | *"Ye Servants of God"*

Children's Chat - *Robert Freeman*

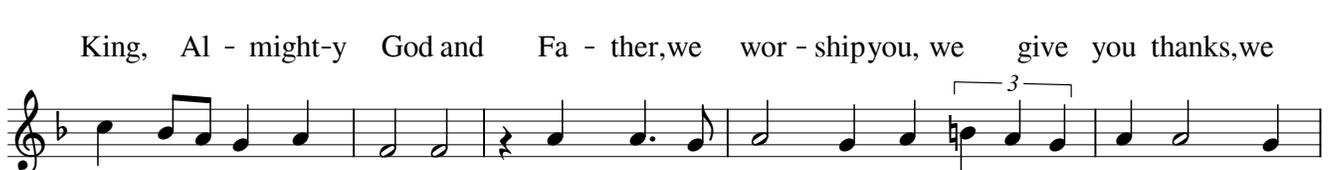
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Canticle of Praise: *Glory to God*

Hymnal S280



King, Al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor - shipyou, we give you thanks, we
 praiseyou for your glo - ry. 3. LordJe - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord
 God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world:have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 6. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

First Reading (*Please be seated*)

Reader A Reading from Deuteronomy:

Introduction to the First Reading

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse that updates the law for the Israelites as they wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***



The fear of the Lord is the be - gin - ning of wis - dom.

Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the deeds of the LORD!
they are studied by all who delight in them. [ANT.]

His work is full of majesty and splendor,
and his righteousness endures for ever.
He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion. [ANT.]

He gives food to those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He has shown his people the power of his works
in giving them the lands of the nations. [ANT.]

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;
all his commandments are sure.
They stand fast for ever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity. [ANT.]

He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his Name.
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever. [ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

Introduction to the Second Reading

In this reading Paul expresses concern that some Corinthian Christians are using their freedom in Christ as license to engage in behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christian freedom is secondary to acting in love for our fellow Christians.

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (Please stand as able) - Please see page 9

#493 | “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark:

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Celebrant *The Gospel of the Lord.*

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand as able*)

*We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

The Prayers of the People *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

We gather in your name, Jesus, because we know who you are. You know our deepest needs and weaknesses, and we look to you in hope.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

The world is hurting and restless for you, Lord. The earth is stressed and cries out for protection. Its peoples cry out in hunger and fear. We turn to you in need of deliverance.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for your Church as it walks your Way of Life. May your people and their leaders know deeply your loving, liberating life-giving presence.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for those who govern all over the world, that they may pursue justice and practice peace. Equip them with the courage and resources to respond to the needs of their people.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

For those who have lost their freedom to addiction, for those who wrestle with worry, for those who struggle with mobility, communication, and relationship. For those who are ill and facing surgery or treatments. For those who will soon give birth, and those who have lost a pregnancy. We look to you for care of all these to give them hope through your presence.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We commend to you the souls of those who have died and ask you to comfort those whose hearts ache with grief.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)

(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)

The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

Reader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *(Please stand as able)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

Offertory Sentence & Interlude

Doxology *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.
Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

#437 | "Tell Out, My Soul"

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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. Hos - san - na in the High - est.

The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by

the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
Amen.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
People *Our Father, who art in heaven,* *And forgive us our trespasses,*
hallowed be thy Name, *as we forgive those*
thy kingdom come, *who trespass against us.*
thy will be done, *And lead us not into temptation,*
on earth as it is in heaven. *but deliver us from evil.*
Give us this day our daily bread. *For thine is the kingdom,*
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.

Distribution Anthem - "Gather Us In" *Text & Music: Marty Haugen*
Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

Post Communion Prayer *(Please kneel or be seated)*

Celebrant Let us pray.
People *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn *(Please stand as able)* *Please see page 11* #530 | "Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word"

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace. Be the light of Christ to the world.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude "Trumpet Gavotte" *Henry Purcell*

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector
J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte
Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming
Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist
Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming

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The Church’s Mission

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
 and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
 All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Paderborn, melody from *Catolisch-Paderbornisches Gesang-buch*, 1765;
 harm. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

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Jesus Christ our Lord

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1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
 3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
 4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
 5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
 3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
 5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
 be now and ever given
 by saints below and saints above,
 the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

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Jesus Christ our Lord

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1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name—the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil-dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*

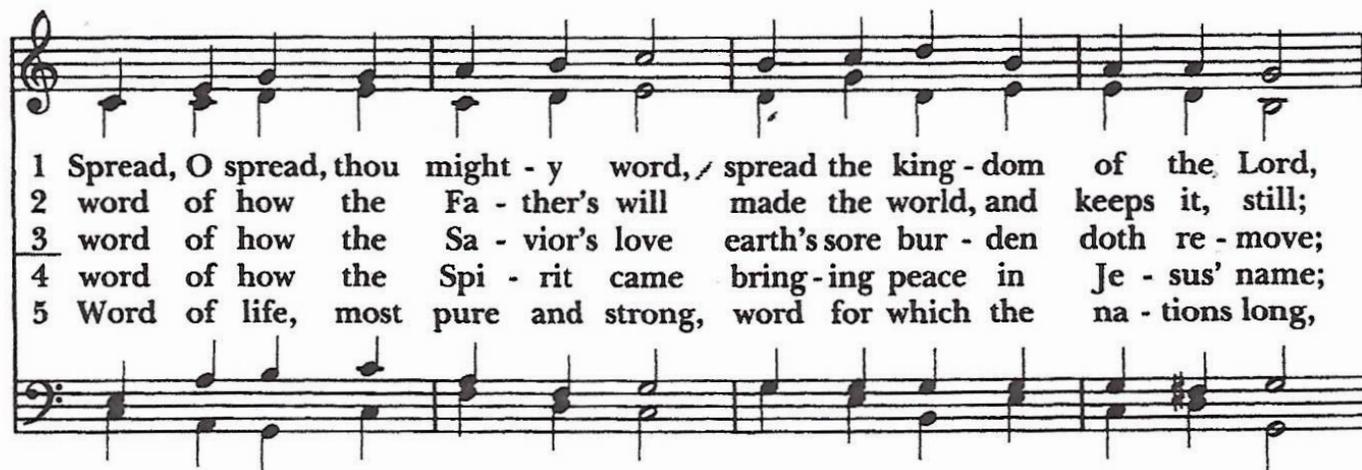
Music: *Birmingham*, from *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. *Songs of Praise*, 1925

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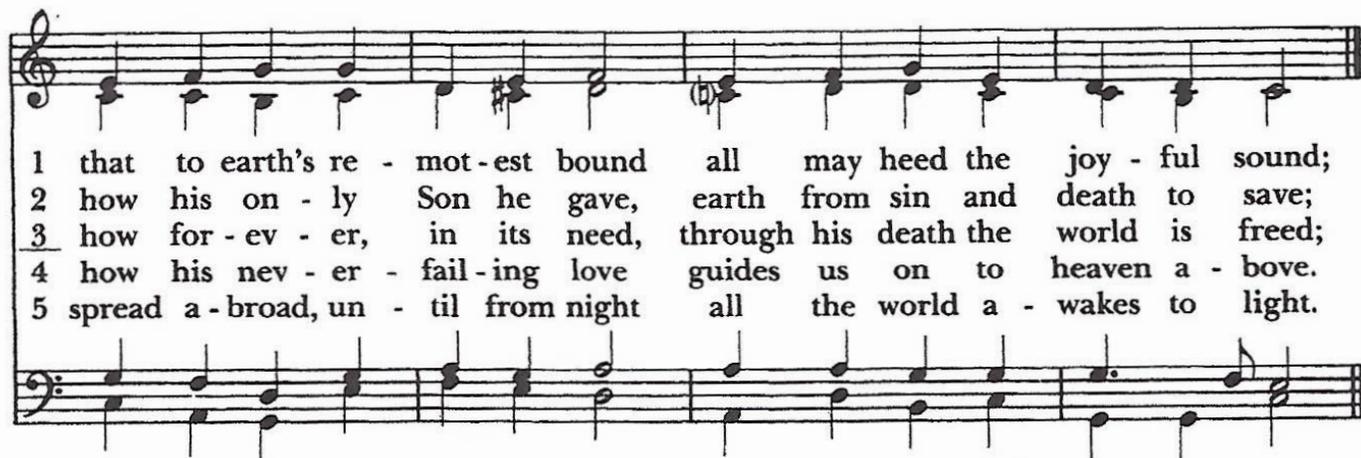
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The Church's Mission



1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, / spread the king - dom of the Lord,
 2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
 3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
 4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
 5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,



1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
 2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
 3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
 4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
 5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952)
 and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: *Gott sei Dank*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704;
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

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