

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025
A SERVICE OF LAMENT



LAMENT FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 10TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMANUEL NINE

Church of God, are you ready?

*Silence**

Are you ready to meet the Lord? Church of God, are you ready?

*Silence**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I came to you as your sibling in Christ,

I welcomed you into my home, to pray

And you despised me because of the color of my skin,

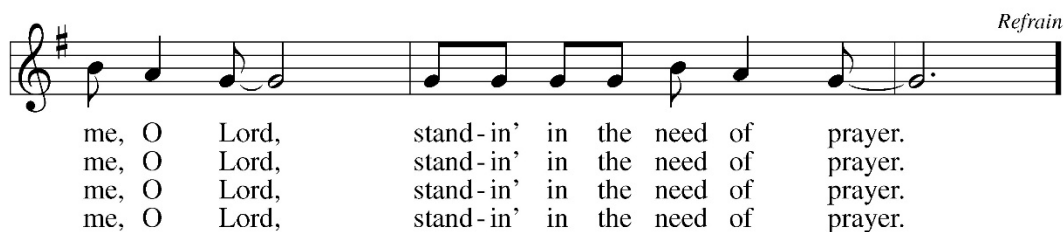
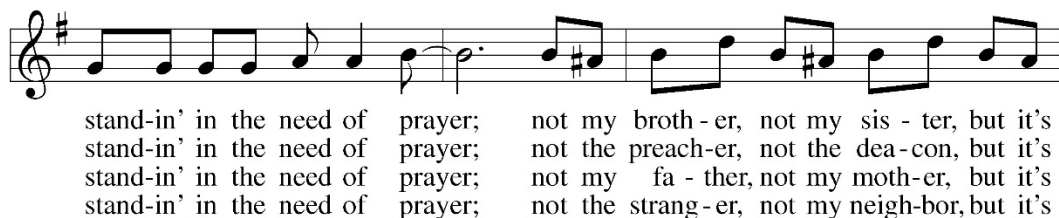
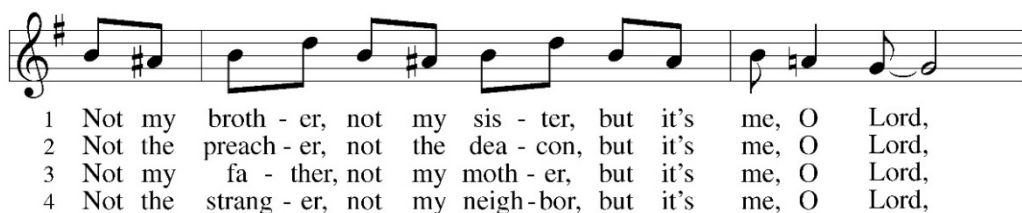
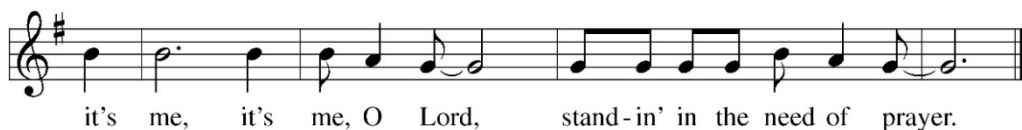
You hated me because I was different

and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

HYMN: IT'S ME, LORD



Text: African American spiritual

Music: STANDING IN THE NEED, African American spiritual

Nearly ten years ago,

Lord, have mercy.

One of our children, one of our children, raised in our church,

Lord, have mercy.

Egged on by hate and evil desires,

Lord, have mercy.

Entered Mother Emanuel church, here in Charleston

Lord, have mercy

And murdered nine people.

O Lord, o Lord, o Lord, have mercy and hear us.

Today, we remember those saints:

The Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney¹

*Silence**

Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd,

*Silence**

Susie Jackson,

*Silence**

Ethel Lee Lance,

*Silence**

The Rev. DePayne Middleton-Doctor,

*Silence**

Tywanza Sanders,

*Silence**

The Rev. Daniel Lee Simmons,¹

*Silence**

The Rev. Sharonda Coleman-Singleton,

*Silence**

¹ Both The Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney and The Rev. Daniel Lee Simmons were graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

The Rev. Myra Thompson

*Silence**

Open our eyes, O God, open our hearts.

Open our ears, O God, open our minds.

Help us to behold one another as you behold us.

Help us to be more firmly rooted in the practices of the gospel—
so that, when we pray, the way we live will make real the dream
of your beloved community within and among us.

And so we cry out,

Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

With the help of your mercy and grace,
lead us to think, believe, and change.

May your gospel's transforming power
by the working of the Holy Spirit
be present in us, in our churches,

Come, Holy Spirit

in our nation and all the nations of the earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

May it be so. And the people said, "Amen."

Amen.


- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

HYMN: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL


Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,




give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com-fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir-it of com-pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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THE WORD

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

Almighty God,
**source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend to us who
mourn, that, casting all their sorrow on you, we may know the
consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

REVELATION 21:1-5

A reading from John's Revelation, the 21st chapter.

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

PSALM 61 (Read in unison)

- 1 Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.
- 2 From the end of the earth I call to you,
when my heart is faint.
- Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I,
- 3 for you are my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy.
- 4 Let me abide in your tent forever,
find refuge under the shelter of your wings. *Selah*
- 5 For you, O God, have heard my vows;
you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.
- 6 Prolong the life of the king;
may his years endure to all generations!
- 7 May he be enthroned forever before God;
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!
- 8 So I will always sing praises to your name,
as I pay my vows day after day.

GOSPEL: JOHN 11: 17-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Lord.

HYMN: NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

LAMENT FOR THOSE WHOM WE HAVE LOST

(The petitions are separated by the refrain from Jesus is a Rock.)

O Lord hear our prayer

O Lord hear our prayer

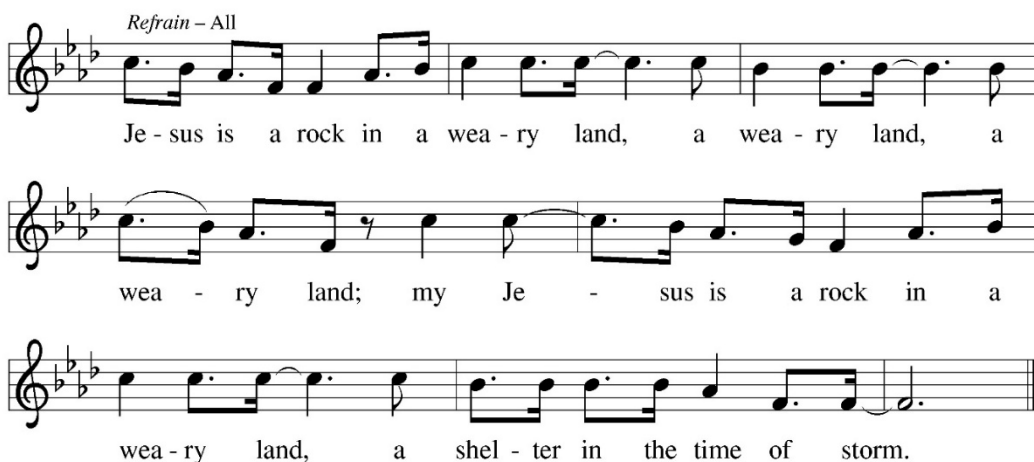
O Christ hear our prayer

O Christ hear our prayers

O Lord hear our prayer

O Lord hear our prayers

Refrain – All



Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

Refrain – All

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a

wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a

wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Jack D. Deal, Sr. Receive him into the arms of your
mercy.

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Dr. Robert E. McCollum. Receive him into the arms of
your mercy.

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. George Baylis Corley. Receive him into the arms of
your mercy.

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Clifford Alfred Riis. Receive him into the arms of your
mercy,

*Silence**

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Robert Brown Lineberger. Receive him into the arms of
your mercy,

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Caldwell N. “Cobby” Day. Receive him into the arms
of your mercy,

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
The Rev. Russell Howard Anderson. Receive him into the arms
of your mercy,

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
Barbara H. “Bobbie” Sides. Receive her into the arms of your
mercy,

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
Betty May Habenicht Park. Receive her into the arms of your
mercy.

*Silence**

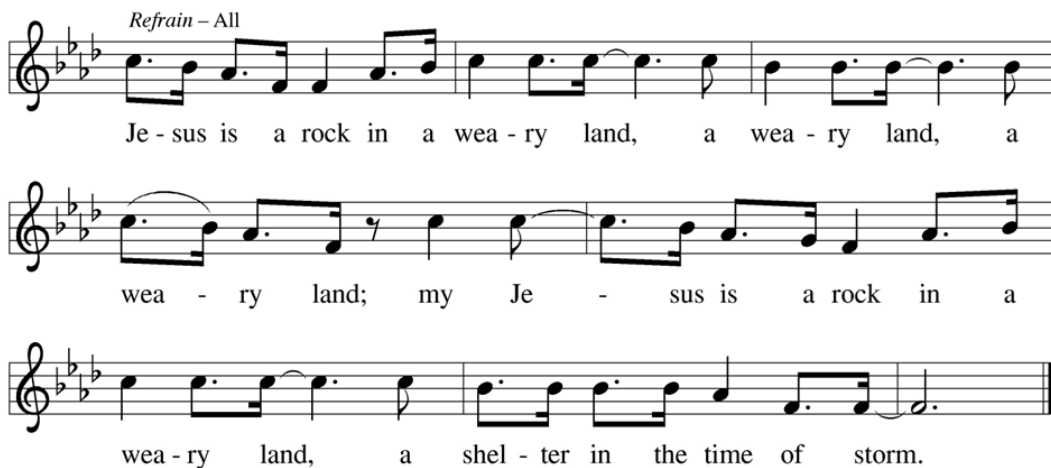
Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
Mabel Shealy Trexler. Receive her into the arms of your mercy.

*Silence**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
Kristen Nicole Frizzell Antley. Receive her into the arms of your
mercy.

*Silence**

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*



Eternal God, we live out your mission as Church through our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and through our synods, like the South Carolina Synod and through our individual congregations and affiliated ministries.

Today we recognize the two congregations and the synodically approved worshipping community that have closed.

These congregations have baptized, confirmed, married and buried a myriad of saints. They have been a blessing to us, so now commend them to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

With thanks to God for the work accomplished in partnership with the ELCA, the synod and their communities, we commend

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

to you

St. John's Lutheran Church in Johnston.

*Silence**

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Greenville.

*Silence**

Restoration Chapel in Columbia. (SAWC)

*Silence**

May the witness of the people who have ministered in the name of Jesus Christ through these congregations be undiminished.

Refrain – All

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff concludes the phrase with a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.'

Lord, we are a broken church. Despite your calls for us to live as one body in you, we continue in the Corinthian way of defining ourselves, one against another. Forgive us and help us to forgive one another.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

We pray for our brothers and sisters who have severed ties with us. We thank you for the years of ministry we did together and the relationships built. May the LORD watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other. Let your gospel would continue to be preached in these places:

Cedar Grove Lutheran Church in Batesburg-Leesville.

*Silence**

Silverstreet Lutheran Church in Silverstreet.

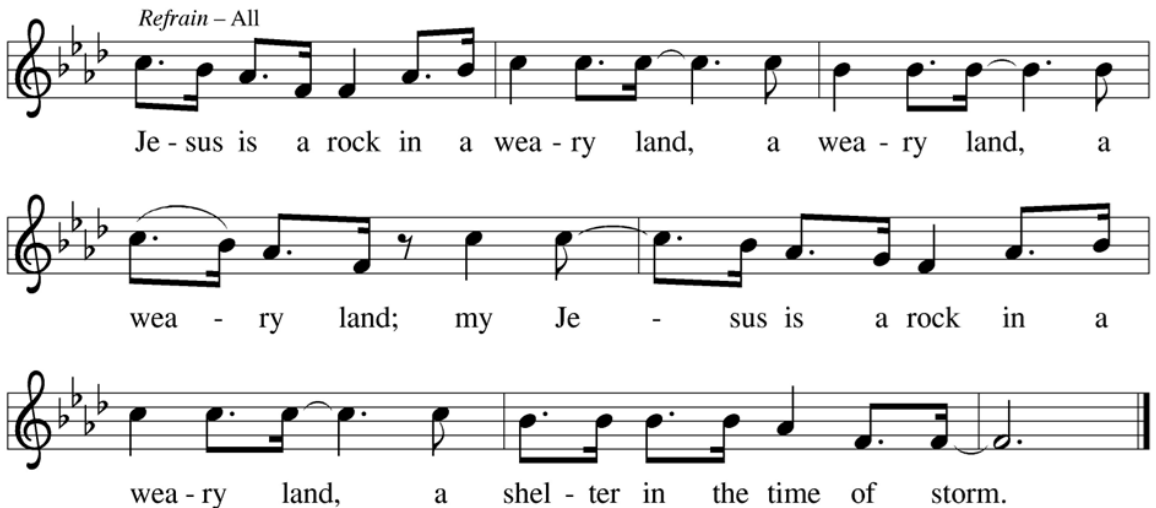
*Silence**

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church in Little Mountain.

*Silence**

For all who have been a part of the ministry these congregations throughout its life, those who have remained constant in the face of challenges, and all who have died and now rest in you, we give you thanks, rejoicing that even if we are not united in our theology, we remain one with them in you.

Refrain – All



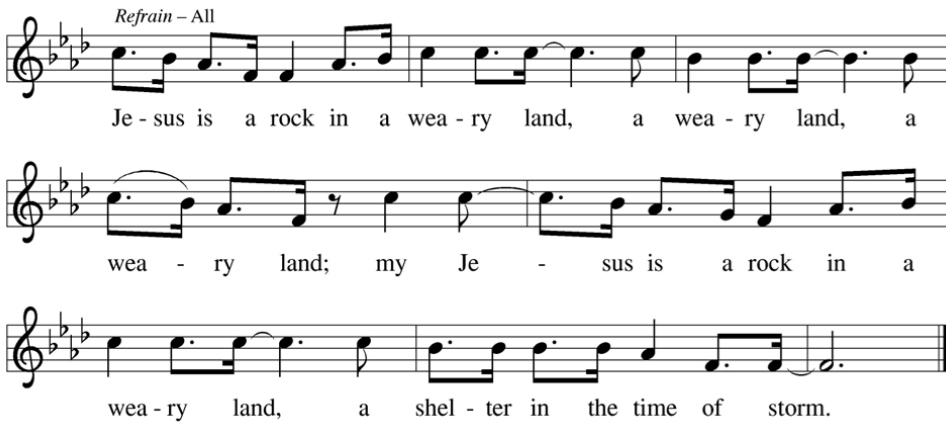
Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

Holy God, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy and hear us.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.



The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord,

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen**

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*

HYMN: THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

- *Denotes the peel of one bell*