Welcome to worship at New Hanover

Transfiguration of Our Lord February 14, 2021

The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor
Richard Thomas, director of GRACE Band and soloist
Patricia Nyce, organist
Carolyn Fleming, soloist
Scott Geiser, lector



Introduction

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

May your worship experience strengthen you with God's love and grace.

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

Prelude I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Handbell Ensemble 1 Nick Trowbridge, viola

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Welcome

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

Surrender

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Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from 2 Kings

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 A reading from 2 Corinthians

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW #661

"I Love to Tell the Story" Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911. Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849-1936. Text and music are under public domain.

Gospel Reading Mark 9:2-9
The holy gospel according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Song of the Day Mighty to Save

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Renewal of Love

By your presence here on this day, those of you who assemble at this celebration show your love and support for all who gathered to renew their love for a gift God has given them. As we gather together apart from one another, you are encouraged to continue to share your words of support and encouragement and acts of kindness and genuine Christian love as if we were gathered in one assembly.

In his letter to the church members at Colossae, the Apostle Paul defines the necessary elements of living together in Christian community to include compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, love and peace. These elements are gifts given to us by Christ himself.

Today we pray that these gifts remain central to each of us as we continue to grow in Christian love with God, God's people and with one another.

Each of you, living in the promise of God will you again give yourself to the one you love in love and faithfulness? Will you continue to share your life with them, in joy and in sorrow, in health and in sickness, for richer, for poorer, for better, for worse, and will you be faithful to them as long as you shall live?

I will.

Will all of you, by God's grace, uphold and care for *name* and *name* in their life together?

We will.

Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world to reveal your love to all people. Enrich all with every good gift, that their life together in love may continue to show forth your love; and grant that at the last we may all celebrate with Christ the marriage feast that has no end; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

I *name* recommit my love to you *name* as my loved one/friend today and always, as long as I live. I will be with you in times of joy and suffering, wealth and poverty; I will love you and honor you, according to God's gracious will.

Renewal Blessing

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for your tender love in sending Jesus Christ to come among us and to endure the cross for our sake, that we may have abundance of life.

By the power of your Holy Spirit continue to pour out the abundance of your blessing on all gathered here now. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let your love be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads.

Bless them so that their lives together may bear witness to your love. Bless them in their work and in their companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; in their life and in their death.

Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that table where your saints feast forever in your heavenly home, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession Let us pray. Have mercy, O God.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

After Communion Prayer

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Sending Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ELW #631

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. Text and music are under public domain.

Blessing

Amen.

The blessed and holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace, now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal
Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.
Go get'em!

Postlude

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Announcements

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of Marsha Staub and all loving relationships by Pastor Scott.

Ash Wednesday Worship February 17th. You can pick up ashes today, February 14th, from noon – 1 PM at the church office portico.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held via Zoom at 11:00 AM on Sunday, February 28th. Information to join the meeting is included in the mailing you will receive. Call (610) 326-1335 for more information or help.

The Picnic Grove committee is hosting a **take-out spaghetti dinner** on Saturday, March 20th. Enjoy delicious spaghetti with homemade sauce, homemade meatballs, homemade bread, salad and for desert, Pizzelle. The cost is \$10 per meal and are ordered in units of one or two to simplify packing. Multiple meals will be packaged family style. Orders may be placed online at www.newhanoverluthran.org or call the church office at (610) 326-1335. Please designate your pickup time of 4:00, 4:30, 5:00 or 5:30 with your order. Orders are due by Monday, March 15th. Pick up your dinner on March 20th at the church kitchen door at your selected pickup time.

Have a pastoral emergency? Call the church office at (610) 326-1335 ext. 1 to contact Pastor Scott.

Staff, committee and board reports for 2020 are due. Email your report to Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at susan.gutshall@comcast.net.

Several seats on the Congregation Council are available for next year and you are invited to join them! Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month to discuss and make decisions about the life and ministries of the congregation. Contact Steve Eisenhart, Pastor Scott or any current council member for more information or if you're interested in participating. Other members of Council are: Robin Fatzinger, Scott Geiser, Nevada Grant, Jim Gross, Marty Hauser, Vicki Mutter, Barbara Repa, Sally Sugita and Andy Van Dyke.

Garden of Hope NHELC is partnering with Trellis for Tomorrow for an innovative organic gardening program onsite at NHELC. Helpers are needed to serve as data manager, pantry relations and logistics, community/corporate liaison, day captains and event/engagement coordinator. For more information about this program, look for the flyer in a recent mailing.

Have an idea for the Garden of Hope logo? Details and contest rules will be included in the next mailing.

Thank you to everyone who brings Redner's Markets tapes to church. Be sure to show your save-a-tape card when checking out so credit is given on the receipt.

Faith Formation

Please note – this information is subject to change due to the weather forecast for this weekend: This Sunday, February 14th, we're holding our Family Faith Formation Valentine/Ash Wednesday/Lent Bag-To-Go Drive-by from 12 noon – 1 PM. Feel free bring any food donations. But please watch for notification that this may be changed to the day before, Saturday, February 13th, same time. Will be a last minute decision! Contact Deacon Carol with any questions.

Parents of Nursery-Grade 2 students – an email has been sent to you about the opportunity to purchase the Spark Story Bible, a Bible written expressly for this age group. It would be a wonderful faith formation resource to have on hand to share with your child. We would like to get the order in so if you let Deacon Carol know as soon as possible, that would be most appreciated!

We have an **online Winter Family Faith Formation resource!** Each week our Sunday School families will be directly emailed a link to that coming Sunday's learning experience. Watch for the link to come towards the end of the week. The resources are geared towards elementary aged children but can be adapted for younger children and youth. Contact Deacon Carol with any questions or if you are not on the current Sunday School Family email list and would like to receive these mailings. Next week the format will change slightly as we focus on the congregation Lenten

theme of healing. Parents will be emailed the information about the new resource prior to next Sunday.

Another faith formation link is available. Called "Parent Pause" it will feature a simple question each week for parents to just ponder throughout the following seven days. Feel free to email Deacon Carol any insights, questions, etc. This link can be found on NHELC's Faith Formation page on the church website, www.newhanoverlutheran.org.

Parents of Youth – A Faith Formation Lenten Devotional App for your young person is now available. Look for an email from Deacon Carol which will have the instructions to download this free app. Each day will include scripture, a reflection, a prayer and a pop art image. Also, we are hoping to post the information on our Faith Formation page on our website once we get copyright permission to do so. But again, parents, look for an email coming with all you need to know about getting this app.

Save the Date for Camp Falckner 2021 An overnight camping experience for youth completing fifth – twelfth grade will be held July $27^{th} - 30^{th}$ in the New Hanover Lutheran Church picnic grove. Watch for registration and more details.

A reminder to fill out the **Sunday School Registration Form** on the Faith Formation page on the church website (newhanoverlutheran.org). By registering, you will receive communications about future faith formation opportunities. Also, there is an **Adult Faith Formation Form** for those who are interested in future learning opportunities like book discussions, etc.

Check out the virtual Bible Study on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch and the church's website at www.newhanoverlutheran.org each week beginning on Wednesday. The Bible study is a joint venture between Pastor Scott and Pastor Mary Ann Harris Siefke from St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gilbertsville. The two pastors discuss the Gospel lesson for the upcoming Sunday service, sharing their personal thoughts on what the Holy Spirit is leading them to teach.

Feeling a little stressed these days? Check out a link for "Prayers for When You Feel Anxious Coloring Pages" on the Faith Formation page under the "Faith Formation Moments" section of our NHELC website. They are downloadable and for all ages. The prayers are wonderful spiritual pick-me-ups!

Need a prayer lifted up? The NHELC Prayer Chain Ministry is here for you. If you need a prayer, know someone else who could use one, or just want someone to pray about peace and healing for our communities, nation and world, we will lift those prayers up! All information will be kept confidential. Just contact Deacon Carol with your prayer request at caroldetweiler@comcast.net or call the church office and leave her a voice mail and she will pass it on to the prayer group. Also, you can contact Deacon Carol to update circumstances or have a name removed from the Prayer Chain. Your prayers will be "delivered"!

Food Ministry

Over 20.000 Meals Delivered

Drivers are needed to deliver meals on Wednesdays and/or Sundays at 2:15 PM. To signup, go to www.signupgenius.com then login using the email address marsha.staub@comcast.net. Need help signing up? Email Marsha or contact Pastor Scott to help.

Drop off your grocery donations on Sunday from 1-2 PM at the church kitchen entrance door. Someone will collect your items at the door and if they are busy, please place the items on a cart outside the door. Someone will take them inside shortly. Thank you for all your generosity in helping feed our neighbors. Chicken, beef, fresh fruit, pasta, frozen veggies and snacks are always welcomed and if in doubt, feel free to bring in any non-perishable food item.

Monetary donations for this ministry are appreciated. Go to our website using the link here: http://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/giving.php. Also, donations can be put in our mail slot located at the church fellowship hall entrance. Be sure to designate on your check or envelope "Food Ministry."

Know someone in the community who needs meals? Email Sally Sugita at sallysugita@yahoo.com with the person's name, number of people in the household and the address.

Thank you for your support.

Remember in your prayers

Requests

Toni Rath, Katy Mahon-Miller, Matt Hall, Luann Hanley, Larry Gallagher, Scot Smale, Carol Estes, Roy Fleming, William Trotter, Kathy Kane, Phil Underkoffler, Maxwell Girard, Pat Fryer, Stephanie Holtz, Carol Buchholtz Yost, Enoc Zapien, Jean Renninger, Gene Reider, Barbara Morris, Kathy Campos, Karen Trout, Pr. Susan Lynch, Richard Norris, Pr. Kork Moyer, Betty Lou Shadle, Julia Hauck, Tony Mancini, Raul Castro, Amy LeVan, Susie Edwards, Linda Harpel, Jeffrey Kunsch, Mary Ellen Jonczyk, Hannah Phillips, Braydon Kline, Edwin Sugita, Carly, Wilma Lahr, Robert Tadley, Jim Price, Donna Kehs, Melissa, Bernadette Phillips, Marlyn Bieleski, Mary Lou, Doug Weaver, Joan Wagner, Jaden Mahlbauer, Robert Ganovsky, MaryAlice Mack, Dorothy Bingaman, Emily Ocelus, Russ and Lenore Gates, Eric and Wendy Hess, Sue Care, Josh Young, Herman Richard, Deb Matthews, Marceline, Brendan Avvento, Anne Eshleman, Daniel Johnson, Gwen Grant, Chris Fatzinger, Linda Norton, Alyssa Dierolf, Hank Droneberg, Pena family, Kim Frain, Catherine Underwood, Debra Kissinger, Bobbie, Steve, Matt, Bob and Cindy, Ken Jacobs, Jen Perez, June Urbassik, Frank D., Doris Gross, Pam Helfrich

The victims and families of the hurricanes, wildfires and floods Peace for the violence in our area and nationally

Long-term

Garrett Coyne, Heather James, Rachel Walter, Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Jean Caputo, Shannon, John, Jean Boyer, Dominic Strock, Sally Kohl, Mark Noecker

Shut-ins

Penny Frymoyer, Fran E. Weaver, Doris Renninger, Janet Deloplaine, Wade Miller

Military

Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, Temperance Leister, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle Woods

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Call for an appointment.

Contact Information

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Bookkeeper, Joan Comtois

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Food Ministry Director

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Sextons, James and Catherine Trotter

englebrothers@gmail.com

Cemetery

Bill Bauer, rwbauer7@gmail.com Norm Hunsberger, namron29@comcast.net

Send

Peter, James, and John had such an amazing experience on the top of the mountain that they didn't want it to end. Have you ever had a day that you wanted to go on forever because it was so much fun? What were you doing? Who were you with?

Draw a picture or write a poem about your best day in the space below, then tell someone about it.

My Really Great Day



Thank you, Jesus, for being with us on really great days. Amen

This week

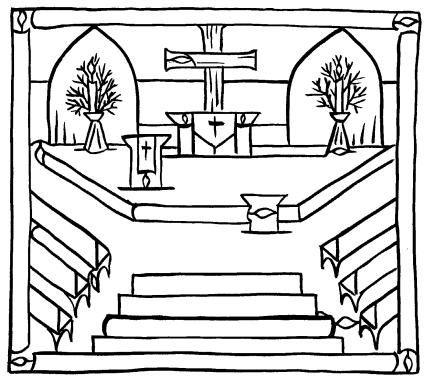
Share stories about the "really great days" you've had in your life.





Welcome to worship. Today is Transfiguration Sunday, a bright day at the end of the season of Epiphany.

Look around your worship space and count all the candles you see, then color in all 15 of the Epiphany candles in the picture below.



I can see ____ candles.

hear & Celebrate

On the mountain

Mark 9:2-9

Peter, James, and John hiked with Jesus up to the top of a mountain where they saw and heard some really amazing things. Using the words below, answer the Transfiguration questions to learn more about this spectacular day, then draw a picture of what happened.

Moses Elijah Peter Jesus God White	
Jesus' clothes turned this color H Who said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him"? G	
This disciple wanted to set up three tents on top of the mountainR	
These two Old Testament people joined Jesus at the top. M andJ	
This person asked the disciples not to tell anyone about what they had seenU	1



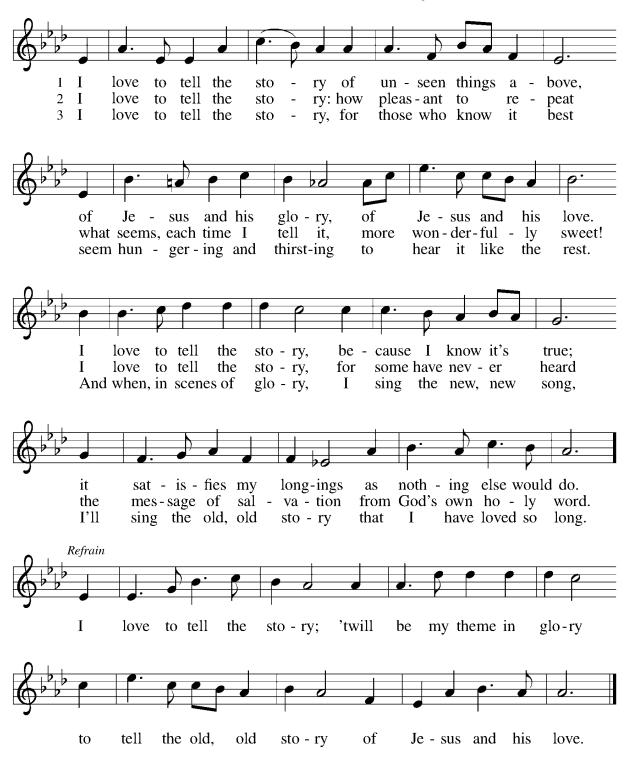
Is there a large Christ candle in your worship space? If so, what do you notice about it?

Surrender

Words and Music by Marc James



I Love to Tell the Story



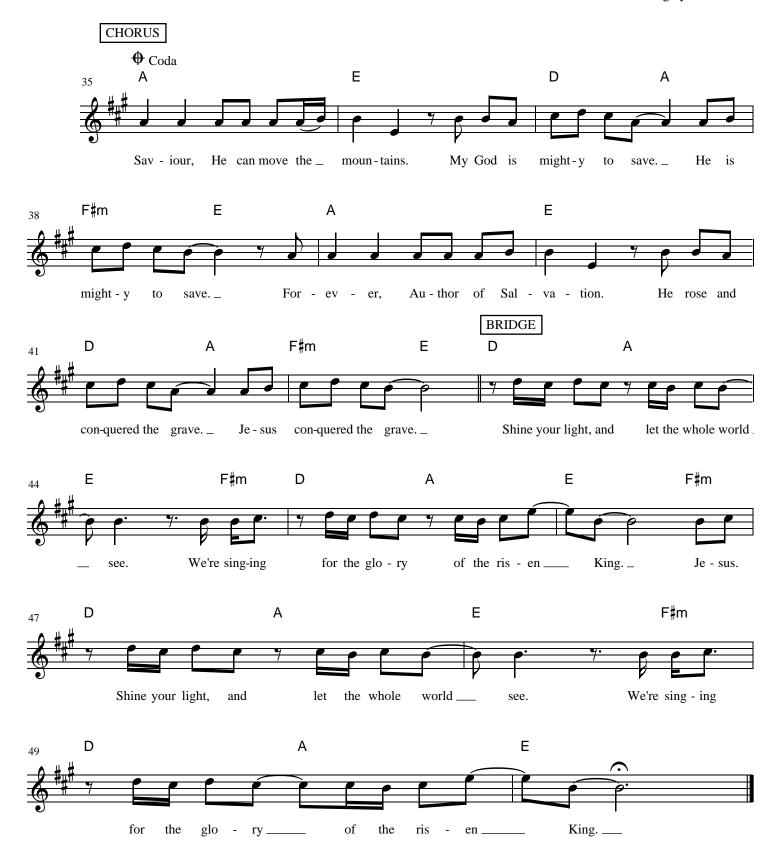
[&]quot;I Love to Tell the Story" Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911. Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849-1936. Text and music are under public domain.

Mighty To Save

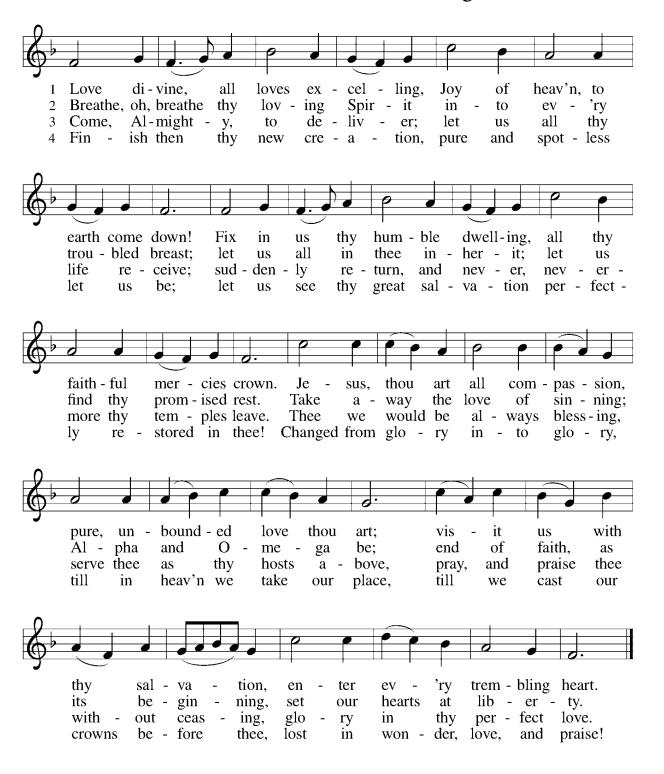
Words and Music by Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding







Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. Text and music are under public domain.