

ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 30, 2025



3900 Freemansburg Ave., Easton PA 18045
(610) 252-2258

Sunday, March 30, 2025
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
9:30am Holy Communion Service

The Zoom link can now be found at the end of the bulletin.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding: Pastor Thomas Neel
Organist: Mark Jonkman
Worship Assistant: Lois Ritchie
Lector: Fay Slater
Ushers: Kathy Brandt and Sue Pettit
Church Time Nursery: Linda Baskwell and Deb Henry
Greeter: Ron Roth

PRELUDE

SPECIAL MUSIC *And He Never Said a Word* **St. Andrew's Bell Choir**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

A brief silence.

P Gracious God, have mercy on us.

C **We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PSALM 32



¹ Happy are they whose transgressions [|] are forgiven,
and whose sin is [|] put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the Lord im- [|] puts no guilt,
and in whose spirit there [|] is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- [|] ered away,
because of my groaning [|] all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me [|] day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the [|] heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- [|] ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt [|] of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in [|] time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they [|] shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve [|] me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts [|] of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that [|] you should go;
I will guide you [|] with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no [|] understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will [|] not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations [|] of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust [|] in the Lord.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice [|] in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are [|] true of heart.

SECOND READING

L A reading from 2 Corinthians Chapter 5

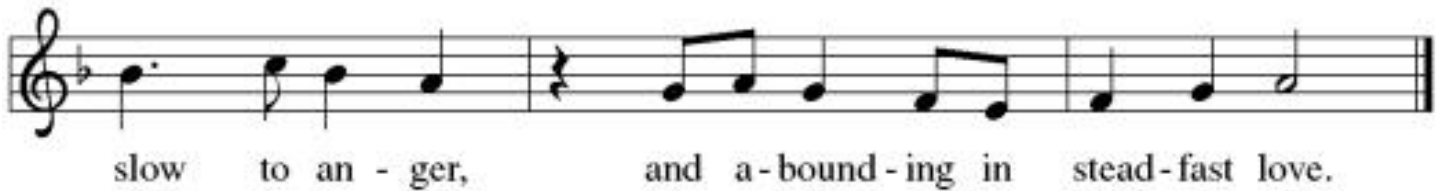
¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

LENTEN SENTENCE



GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-3, 11b-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P ¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.” ’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are My Hiding Place

(See Inside Back Cover)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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 OF INTERCESSION

P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.
A brief silence.

A God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of mercy, protect and bless all civil servants, local government officials, and members of the armed services who work for our safety and security, especially Courtney, Matthew, Levi, Kyle, Anthony, Vince, Elizabeth, Derek, Kristina, Jan-Oskar, Sten, Rhiannon, Mark, and Joseph. Help us to be thoughtful citizens and good neighbors in our community. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

A Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

You, Lord

Chancel Choir

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING SONG

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

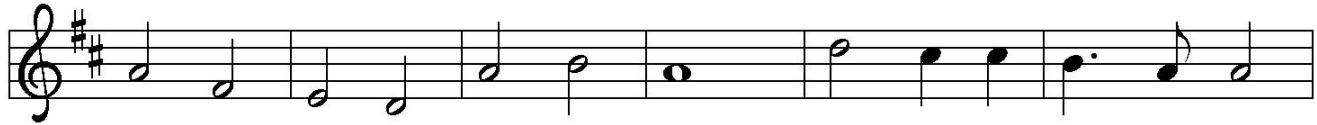
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled 'GREAT THANKSGIVING'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with slurs connecting the notes.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



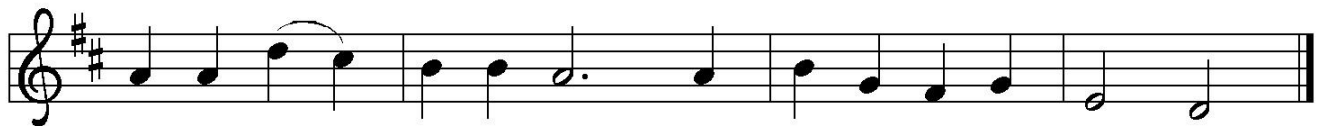
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

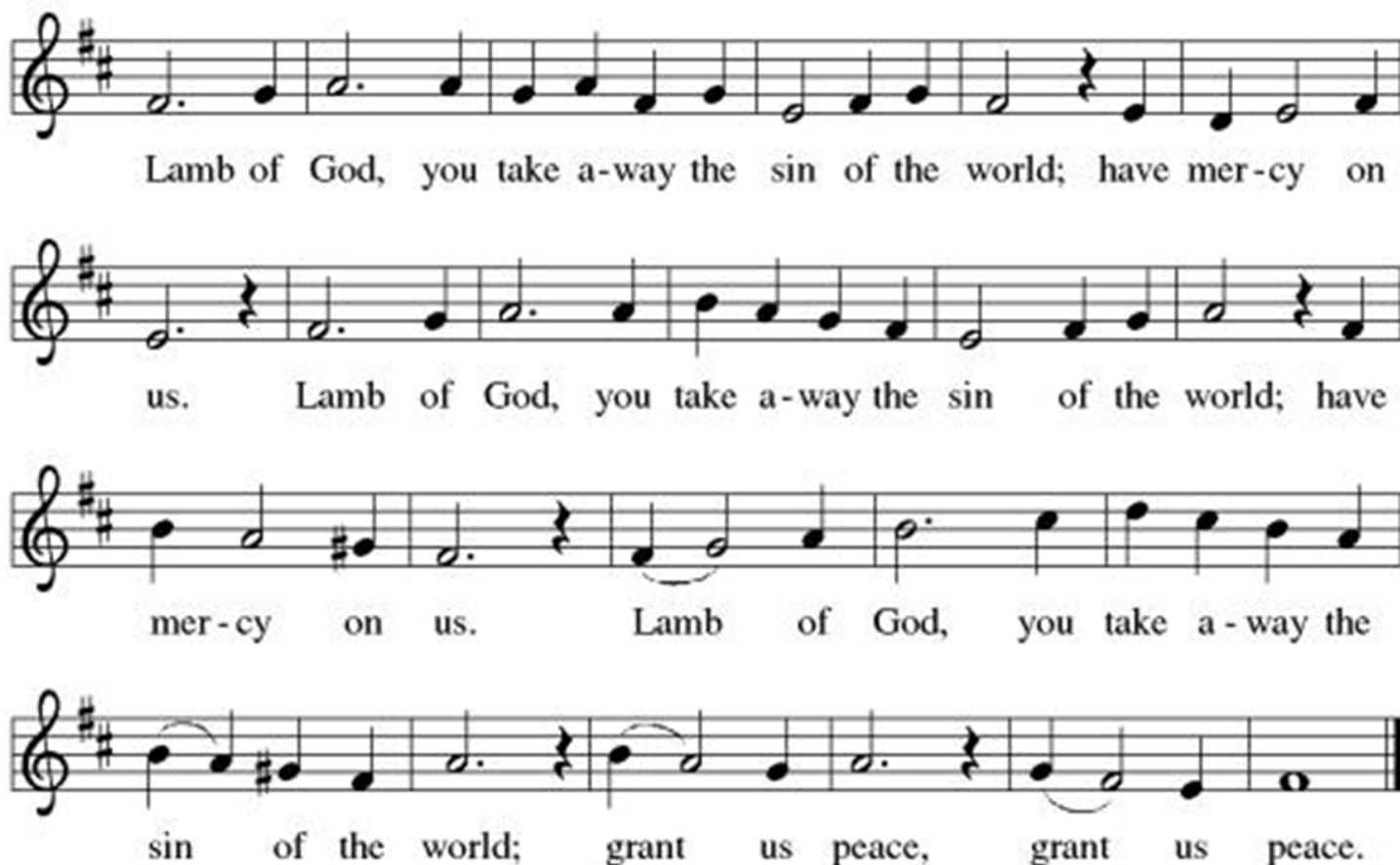
C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymns during distribution:

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Hymnal #502

We Come to the Hungry Feast

Hymnal #479

What Feast of Love

Hymnal #487

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be celebrated at the base of the steps this day or at your seats. All are welcome to receive the bread, wine or grape juice. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

Please stand as you are able.

When all have received Communion:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW 326

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

This Week in the Life of St. Andrew's:

Monday, March 31 7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, April 1 7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, April 2 6:00pm Soup Supper at United Fellowship Lutheran

7:00pm Lenten Service at United Fellowship Lutheran

Thursday, April 3 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 4 7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, April 6 9:30pm *Holy Communion Worship Service

*This service is live broadcast and recorded.

Altar Guild: Debbie Ealer (March), Sue Heater (April)

Offering Counters: Shirley Kerbaugh & Kathy Brandt (March), Donna George & Janet Rhymer (April)

Zoom link for Live Broadcast

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82677651018?pwd=d1NSZ2V4NTVtMnFJaGp0Mm5GdTZrQT09>

By phone: +1 646-558-8656 (New York) or +1-312-626-6799 (Chicago) TOLL CHARGES MAY APPLY.

Meeting ID: 826 7765 1018

Passcode: 454700

Celebrating Birthdays This Week:

Tyler Azzalina, Mike Barilone, Gabriella Gruhler, Joan Heebner. Brendon Pickel, and Warren Rute.

Please Keep These Friends and Family Members in Your Prayers:

Immediate Prayers*: Ashley and Olaf Kjellberg, Ayda, Carl Elser, Evelyne Tosini, Gary Trigiani, Gerry Heebner, Guy Ehler, Jean Pleiss, Kamilah, Marge Weidner, Mary DiEmedio, Mike U, Penny, Niklas Enblom, Robert Griffiths, Rose Marie Kjellberg, Shirley, and Sylvia Gallop. **as of March 27th*

Members Homebound/Nursing Home: Margaret Bennett, Shirley Curto, Lisa Detweiler, Carl Fisher, Theresa Lawhead, Irene Neel, Doris Neumeyer, and Doris Wanamaker.

Long Term Prayers: Barbara Lindner, Carol Ehler, Charlie, Crystal DiLonardo, David Jackson, David Laustsen, Debbie and Michael DiLonardo, Doug VonNessen, Elaine Bobeck, Ethel Shive, Frances Rankin, Ingvar Kjellberg, Jennifer, Jessica Arnoldi, John Clay, Karyn Israel, Keith, Laura Lee Laustsen, Lori Gilbert, Maj-Britt Enblom, Melissa Steckel, Nancy, Pam Garity, Paul, Paul Laustsen, Rodney Burda, and Wes Webber.

Service Members: MSgt Courtney Baskwell, Lt. Matthew Baskwell, Airman Levi Birchfield, Staff Sgt. Kyle Callantine, PV Anthony Duginski, Captain Vince Franchino, Lt. Elizabeth Gordon, Major Derek Hartman, Major Kristina Himmelreich, Ensign Jan-Oskar Kjellberg, Lt. Col. (Retired) Sten Kjellberg, Sgt. Rhiannon Perry, Corporal Mark Pollard, and Seaman Recruit Joseph Suhr.

Music credits, copyrights, and licensing...

And He Never Said a Word CCLI#5896682 2011 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services) CCLI Copyright License 524183 Size B / Streaming License 20854361 Size B

The King of Love My Shepherd Is: Public Domain Domain Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: Irish tune Tune: St. Columba

We Come to the Hungry Feast: #85920 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-710141. All rights reserved."

What Feast of Love #98260 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-710141. All rights reserved."

You Are My Hiding Place W&P 160 CCLI #21442 1981 CCCM Music (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) CCLI Copyright License 11206629 Size B / Streaming License 20854361 Size B

Bless Now, O God, the Journey: ELW 326 One License #08081 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-710141. All rights reserved."

You Are My Hiding Place

1*
Am Dm⁷ G G/B

You are my hid - ing place; you al - ways

Csus C G/B F/A Dm

fill my heart with songs of de - liv - er - ance. When -

Esus E 2 Am

ev - er I am a - fraid I will trust in you,

Dm⁷ G Dm⁷ G/B C G/B

I will trust in you. Let the weak say,

F/A Dm *To repeat* Esus E

"I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

Last time Esus E Am

strength of the Lord, I will trust in you."