

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Santa Clarita
The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany — Scout Sunday
10:30 AM — February 8, 2026

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.

Candlelight is for sharing. Jesus said, one doesn't light a lamp and put it under a basket. One puts it on a stand to give light to a whole room. Jesus told his followers: "You are the light of the world." Continue to share the light by standing up to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly.

Br. Luke Ditewig, SSJE

-Generally, we stand to give praise, sit to listen (to scripture and sermon), and stand or kneel to pray. These postures help us stay focused on the worship, but there are no strict rules and you should take whatever posture is appropriate to your needs.-

Prelude

Jesus, the Light of the World
St. Stephen's Stones

Gaither Vocal Band

-Processions have long been an important part of liturgical worship. At the beginning of the service they signify an intention to move toward the altar and into direct relationship to worship God. Those who wish to may bow in reverence as the cross passes to acknowledge Christ's sacrifice upon it.-

Please stand as you are able.

Entrance

All of My Days

Mark Stevens

Veres:



1. Pro - claim your awe - some pow - er, _____
2. All your works will praise you, _____ (Your)



3
Tell of might - y deeds. _____ De-clare your fu - ture king -
chil - dren, bless your name. _____ We speak of all your good -



6
- dom _____ of ev - er - last - ing peace. _____ And my eyes
- ness. _____ We walk in fields of grace. _____



9
they look un-to you al - ways, and I am cap - tured by your maj -

12 Chorus:

- es - ty, — All of my days I will sing — of your great - ness.

15

All of my days I will speak — of your grace. All of my days I will tell —

18

— of your won - drous love, — Your love in my life, — Your love. —

-The liturgy is God's community gathered to actively share the Word and the Eucharist. We invite and encourage your participation in this community. Please join in the spoken responses and hymns shown in the service bulletin.-

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

-The opening acclamation is the greeting of the people by the presider and their response, which begins the service. Its purpose is to bring the congregation corporately into dialogue with the presider and set a tone for the celebration.-

Priest: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Collect for Purity

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 Savior. **Amen.**

Priest and People:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,

**with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

-A Collect is a short prayer with a specific structure. Its purpose is to gather into one the individual prayers of the People. The Collect of the Day is a specific prayer that reflects upon the lectionary readings for the given day of the liturgical year.-

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONS

The First Reading Isaiah 58:1-9a

Reader: Nathan Noguchi
Pack 57

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

-The Book of Common Prayer has always placed great importance on the Psalms in worship. They are sung or said in every service of the church, and their words make up the petitions and language of our liturgy.

Psalm 112:1-9

Reader: Sander Hartman
Troop 2222

1 Hallelujah!
Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Reader: Cyril Gomez
Troop 2222

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

-The Gospel procession moves into the congregation as a liturgical reminder that Jesus walked among us.-

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual LEVAS #58

The Lord is My Light

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and
my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and
my sal - va - tion; whom shall I fear?
Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength
of my life; whom shall I fear? In the time of trou-ble,
He shall hide me, O in the time of trou-ble, He shall hide me,
in the time of trou-ble, He shall hide me; whom shall I fear?

-The Gospel is comprised primarily of the words Christ himself spoke, and so we stand out of reverence for the good news that has been brought for us and all people.

Those who wish, make the sign of the cross with the right-thumb on the forehead, the lips, and the heart when the Gospel is announced, praying silently, God be in my head and in my thinking. God be in my lips and in my speaking. God be in my heart and my departing.

The Gospel Reading Matthew 5:13-20

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Priest: The Gospel of the Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

-The Sermon or Homily helps us apply the words of the early prophets and Christ in our lives.-

The Sermon

The Very Rev. Christopher Montella
Rector

-The Nicene Creed is the statement of what we believe. It is one of the most ancient and corporate confession of our faith, having been adopted by the first ecumenical council in the year 325. When we recite this creed we are joining a great heritage of the holy universal Church through the centuries.

Some people may choose to bow their heads at the verse, For us and for our salvation...and was made man. This gesture marks the mystery of the Incarnation as the central Christian message of God's love for the world.-

Please stand as you are able.

Nicene Creed

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.

-Prayer is offered for the Universal Church, the Nation and all in authority, the welfare of the world, concerns of the local community, for those who suffer or who are in any trouble, and for the departed.-

Prayers of the People

Reader: Cole Cusack

Crew 314

Siblings in Christ, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Let us pray, "God, hear our call, and answer us."

Establish your Church, O God, as a light to the world. Shine your Holy Spirit through us, and all for your glory and the welfare of your people.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

Righteous God, you delight in justice and mercy: loose the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Raise up leaders who care for the poor.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

We thank you, O God, for the gift of light. By it you cause plants to grow; by it you generate warmth; by it you open our eyes to see the beauty of all you have made.

The congregation may add their own thanksgivings.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

In our own city, Great God, be the restorer of streets. Rebuild our ruined places. May all the people of this community live in security and peace.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

Be present to all those who cry for help, O Holy One. We pray your healing will spring up quickly for those in need. We pray for all those on the prayer list, especially Muriel, Debbie, Brian and his daughter.

The congregation may add their own petitions.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

The human heart fails to conceive all the good you have prepared for your beloved ones, Heavenly Parent. We trust to you our dying and our dead, especially Doel Joaquin, believing that you are good and faithful.

Silence

Intercessor: God, hear our call,

People: **And answer us.**

Priest:

O Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light, and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy. **Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

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

-The Peace is an extension of Christian greeting and teaching to love our neighbor as ourselves. It symbolizes our intent to forgive as we are forgiven, to live in peace with all people. Members are encouraged to greet one another with a sign of God's peace with the clasping of hands, a reverential bow, a hug, or a peace sign.-

The Peace

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Members of the congregation who are joining us via livestream are encouraged to post "Peace be with you" in the comments or to use the "like" or "love" reaction button to take part in the virtual exchange of God's peace with the rest of the congregation at this time.

Please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

Scout Testimonial

Violette Lungren
Troop 2019

We are pleased to celebrate the following birthday: Avery Ruben Flower & Greg Richards on Feb. 8th, and Becca Vo on Feb. 12th. We also celebrate the wedding anniversary of Jill & Tom Jensen on Feb. 14th.

Offertory Prayer

The People remain seated and say together:

Loving God, you alone are the source of every good gift. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Now, help us to be grateful, accountable, and, with praise and thanksgiving, to give of ourselves generously, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory

People Get Ready
St. Stephen's Stones

Curtis Mayfield

-A Sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us, ordained by Christ himself. For Anglicans there are two great sacraments: Eucharist and Baptism.

As continuation of thousands of years of spiritual practice, talent, treasure, and oblations are offered before the altar in our response to God's care and nurture.-

Please stand as you are able.

Doxology

Old 100^h

-The Sursum Corda (Lift up your hearts) is a form of introduction to prayer handed down over the centuries. This dialogue is an invitation for the people joining in the Eucharistic offering, to raise minds and hearts to "things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God."-

Priest: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Priest: Let us give thanks.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

-We praise God for the long arc of salvation history. We do not approach with petition but simply with grateful remembrance of all that God has done.-

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Day and night celebrate your glory till time shall be no more.

In Jesus Christ, your Word became flesh, when he was born of the Virgin Mary. He emptied himself, taking our human form, that through his incarnation and passion we might come to share in his divine nature.

Filled with the Spirit, who at the first Creation moved over the face of the waters, and who overshadowed the blessed Virgin at Nazareth, we await with joy the fulfilment of your new Creation.

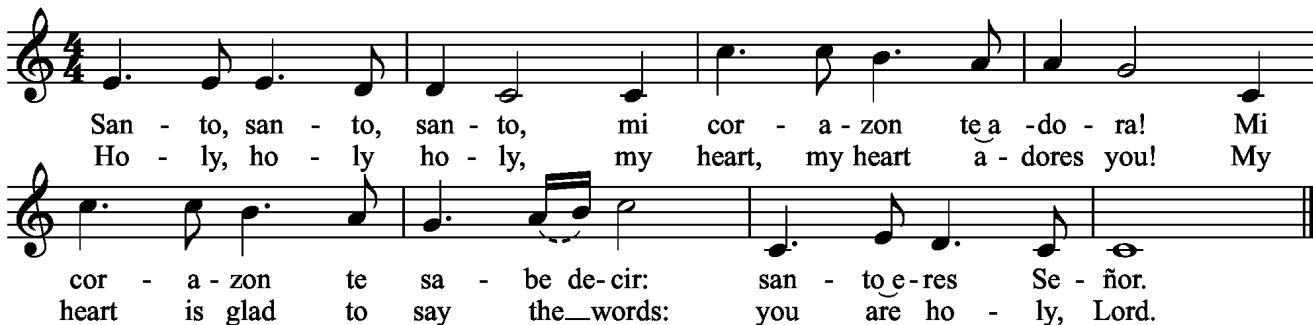
As children of your redeeming purpose who celebrate the birth of your Son, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

-The holiness of God is a strong theme in the Old Testament, present here in the Sanctus, which echoes the words of the high angels in the prophet Isaiah's vision of the dwelling place of God (Isaiah 6:1-3).

Our worshipful cry, "Holy, Holy, Holy," is coupled with the acclamation "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."

Sanctus WLP #785

"Santo, santo, santo"



Standing or kneeling as you are able.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God. In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us, and live among us, that we might forever live with you. In the manger at Bethlehem, in his flight to Egypt, and as the carpenter's son, the Only Begotten humbled himself to meet us.

Obedient to your calling, he accepted death on the cross. When you exalted him on the third day, and bestowed on him the name above all names, he opened the gate of glory that we might be your children, and share in his kingdom of Peace.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.

Priest and people say together.

We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

-The epiclesis is the point at which the church, through the voice of the Celebrant, asks God to make holy, 'sanctify', 'send', 'pour', 'breathe', both the gift of bread and wine and also the gathered community.

Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, Stephen and all your saints, the apostles and prophets, and all of our siblings living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Savior, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, O God of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

-The fraction (breaking of the bread) is a crucial link between what has come before and what comes after it. Christ has offered his life for us, and the breaking of the bread makes it possible for all to share in that life.-

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

-The outward and visible sign in the sacrament of the Eucharist is the bread and the wine. We eat and drink the sacramental foods. Through the inward and spiritual grace of this sacramental action we are reconstituted as Christ's body, infused with Christ's life, and empowered to be Christ's presence in the world.-

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set belongs to God. Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey you are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine made holy.
The church teaches that temporal isolation cannot constrain the sacrament's ineffable power.
Calling us to "massive, corporate, spiritual communion,"*

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Priest and People say together:

My 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 at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Please be seated.

Please follow usher instructions for taking communion.

Post Communion

Thy Word

Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith

Chorus:

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

5 Verses:

1. When I feel a - fraid, Your think I've lost my way.
2. I will not for - get Your love for me and yet, my

7

Still heart You're there right be - side me. No - thing will I fear, as
for - ev - er is wan - dering. Je - sus be my guide, and

10 Back to Chorus:

long as you are near, and please be near me to the end.
hold me to Your side, I will love You to the end.

-In the post communion prayer we give thanks for the sacramental signs of Christ's presence to us and we ask God to empower and accompany us into the world to witness to God's love.-

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Infinite, intimate God,
in this Eucharist
we have celebrated your presence with us.
May we grow in the divine life of Christ
who humbly shared our human life.
Fill us with joy and send us out
to share this good news with others.
We ask this through Jesus Christ Emmanuel. Amen.

-The blessing is God's promise to be with us as we leave communal worship and return to the world to serve God and God's people.-

Blessing

May God,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find Him.

May Jesus,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana
transform your lives and make glad your hearts

May the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour holy gifts upon you
who have come to the waters of new birth.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the one, holy and undivided Trinity be among
you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

-Processions have long been an important part of liturgical worship. At the conclusion of the service the retiring procession represents the carrying of the Gospel message into the world.

Those who wish to may bow in reverence as the cross passes to acknowledge Christ's sacrifice upon it.-

Closing

I Saw the Light

Hank Williams, Sr.

Chorus:

I saw the light, I saw the light, No more darkness, no more night. Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight.

Fine

Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

Verses:

1. I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin, I would-n't let my
 2. Just like a blind man I wandered a lone, Worries and fears I
 3. I was a fool to wan-der and stray. Straight is the gate and

dear Sav - ior in. Then Je - sus came like a stran - ger in the night.
 claimed for my own. Then like the blind man, God gave back his sight.
 nar - row the way, Now I have trad - ed the wrong for the right.

Back to Chorus:

Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

-The dismissal asserts the relationship between worship and living. It is a call to mission, a call to live the baptismal and Eucharistic life in the world.-

Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People taken from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson, ©2014 by Jeremiah D. Williamson. All Rights Reserved.
 From: *Wonder, Love and Praise*, #785 "Santo, santo, santo", Words: variation on a traditional liturgical text, Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933). Copyright: Music: © 1990 Iona Community, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.

From *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, #58 "The Lord is My Light", Words: Lillian Bouknight, Music: Lillian Bouknight; arr. Paul Gainer. Copyright © 1980 Savgo Music, Inc. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

Doxology — Music: Old 100th, melody from *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

I Saw the Light, Author: Hank Williams, Sr. 1948. Renewed 1975 Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music (Admin. by Sony/ATV Music Publishing). CCLI Song Number # 45064. *Thy Word*, Authors: Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, 1984 Word Music, LLC (a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.), Meadowgreen Music Company, (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song Number # 14301. *All of My Days*, Author: Mark Stevens, 2000 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song Number # 3258208. All of My Days, Hillsong Music Publishing UK Copyrights © 2000 Hillsong Music Publishing UK, Administrators: Hillsong Music Publishing USA CCLI song number 3258208