

*Galatians 1:15-16*

*But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by His marvelous grace. Then it pleased Him to reveal His Son to me so that I would proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles.*

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**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Conversion of St. Paul

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Service Theme

**JESUS IS THE CHRIST, THE ONE WHO CALLS**

As the Christ, Jesus had a number of roles to fulfill. He was the ultimate Prophet, Priest, and King, and he was the Savior. He was also the one who called people to faith in him and sent them to be his witnesses to the world. He called Saint Paul to join the apostles as a missionary to the Gentiles. He also calls us to lives of faith and witness.

# 578 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

CW 578



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his  
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, high - er than the  
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part com - fort to a  
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in  
 5 Strength - en me, O gra - cious Lord, by your Spir - it



blood for me, died that I might live on high,  
 heav'n's a - bove, deep - er than the depths of sea,  
 wound - ed heart, peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
 all to me; all my wants to him are known,  
 and your Word. When my way - ward heart would stray,



lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
 last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty, love that found me—  
 joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to  
 all my sor - rows are his own. Safe with him in  
 keep me in the nar - row way; grace in time of



to the vine, I am his and he is mine!  
 won - drous thought— found me when I sought him not.  
 walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.  
 earth - ly strife, I a - wait the heav'n - ly life.  
 need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

**The Service**  
*Morning Prayer (page 207)*



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



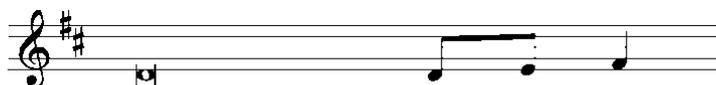
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



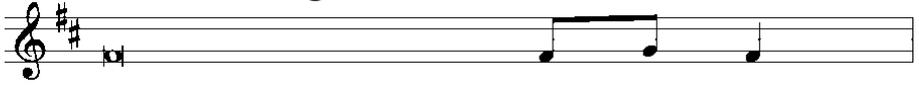
*Epiphany* The glory of Christ is re - vealed:



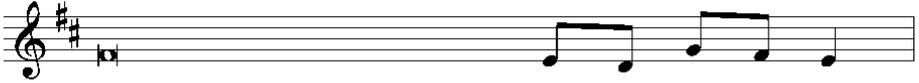
praise and thanks to God!

# O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

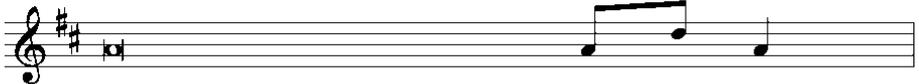
CW 208



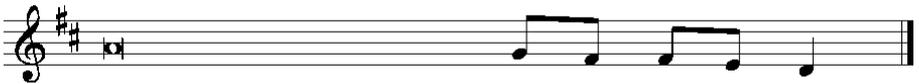
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great \_\_\_\_\_ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made \_\_\_\_\_ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry \_\_\_\_\_ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow \_\_\_\_\_ down,
- 4 For he is our God,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his  
pasture and the sheep of his \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, through the conversion of your apostle Paul, you caused the light of the gospel to shine in all the world.

Grant that we may follow his example and be witnesses to the truth that is in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

Acts 9:1–22

*Jesus appears to Saul, later named Paul, on the road to Damascus.*

<sup>1</sup>Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners.

<sup>3</sup>As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

<sup>5</sup>He asked, “Who are you, Lord?”

He replied, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do.”

<sup>7</sup>The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone.

<sup>8</sup>They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

<sup>10</sup>There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”

<sup>11</sup>The Lord told him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. <sup>12</sup>In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight.”

<sup>13</sup>Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

<sup>15</sup>The Lord said to him, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup>Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

<sup>17</sup>Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>18</sup>Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup>And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

<sup>21</sup>All who heard him were amazed and said, “Isn't this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn't he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” <sup>22</sup>But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

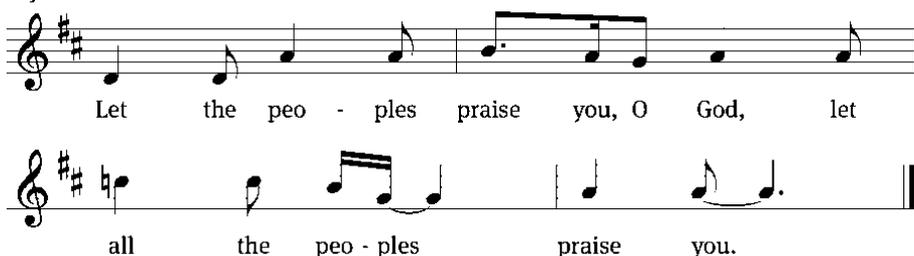
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 67A Let the Peoples Praise You

Psalm 67A

## Refrain



Let the peo - ples praise you, O God, let  
all the peo - ples praise you.

## Tone



May God be gracious to us and / bless us  
and make his face / shine on us—  
so that your ways may be / known on earth,  
your salvation among all / nations.

May the peoples / praise you, God;  
may all the peoples / praise you.  
May the nations be glad and / sing for joy,  
for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the  
nations / of the earth. *Refrain*

The land yields its / harvest;  
God, our God, / blesses us.  
May God / bless us still,  
so that all the ends of the earth will / fear him.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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## Second Reading

Galatians 1:11–24

*Paul describes what happened before and after his conversion.*

<sup>11</sup>But I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. <sup>12</sup>For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation from Jesus Christ.

<sup>13</sup>Certainly you have heard of my former way of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God to an extraordinary degree and tried to destroy it. <sup>14</sup>I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my own people, because I was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. <sup>15</sup>However, God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>16</sup>to reveal his Son in me, so that I would preach him among the Gentiles. At that time, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood, <sup>17</sup>and I did not go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me. Instead I went away into Arabia, and then I returned again to Damascus.

<sup>18</sup>Next, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to meet Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. <sup>19</sup>But I saw none of the other apostles, except James, the Lord's brother. <sup>20</sup>(Now about the things I am writing to you—look, I assure you in the presence of God that I am not lying.) <sup>21</sup>Then I went to the regions of Syria and Cilicia. <sup>22</sup>I was still personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. <sup>23</sup>They heard only: “The one who was once persecuting us is now preaching the faith that he once tried to destroy.” <sup>24</sup>And they were praising God for what happened to me.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

1 Timothy 1:15



### Refrain



Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—  
of whom I am the worst. *Refrain*

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## Gospel

Matthew 19:27–30

*Converting to Christianity changes lives for eternity.*

<sup>27</sup>Then Peter answered, “Look, we have left everything and followed you! What then will we have?”

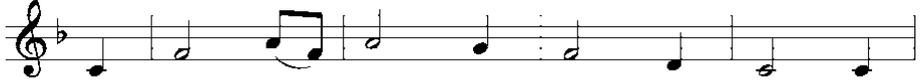
<sup>28</sup>Jesus said to them, “Amen I tell you: In the renewal, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup>Everyone who has left homes or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, because of my name, will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. <sup>30</sup>Many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

# 576 Amazing Grace

CW 576



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

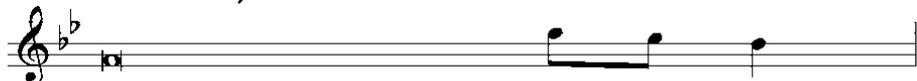
*Galatians 1:11–24*

### Your faith is God's work alone, who...

- 1) Set you apart from birth.
- 2) Called you by His grace.
- 3) Revealed His Son to you through His Gospel.
- 4) Wants you to witness His grace to the world.

# We Praise You, O God

CW 210



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise — you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full — of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



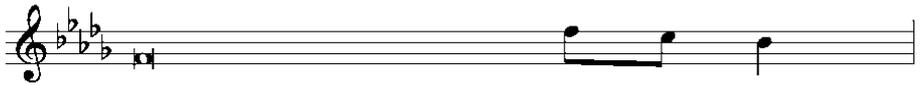
- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise — you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



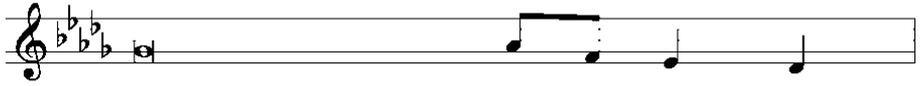
- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise — you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



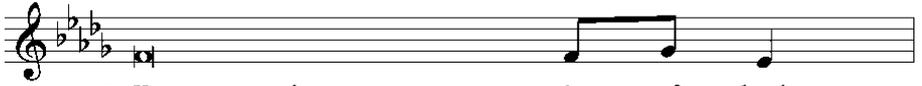
- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.



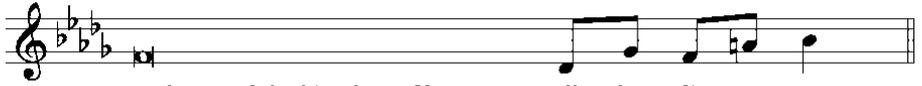
5 When you became man to set us free,  
6 You sit at the right hand of God



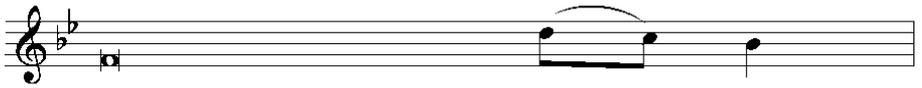
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death  
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to be our judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

## Lord, Have Mercy

CW 213



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and an - swer me.



**Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.**

## Offertory Prayer

### Prayer of the Church

Eternal God and Father, we thank you for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, and for fellowship with believers in our congregation and our synod.

**Help us rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and use them faithfully.**

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, Lord Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

**Awaken us to opportunities to proclaim your message of love.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

**Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

*Silent prayer*

Keep in your care those who are enduring chronic pain and incessant unhappiness, those enduring rejection and struggling with poverty, those mourning the loss of someone they loved. [Especially bless... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Bring healing and help and comfort and calm to everyone in distress.

**Move us to act alone or join with others to provide help and support.**

Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

**Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.**

Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

**Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.**

**Prayer for Courage**

CW 213

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of faith of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Lord's Prayer

CW 213

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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

# Blessing

CW 214



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

# 745 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

CW 745



- 1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?"
- 2 If you can - not speak like an - gels, if you can - not preach like Paul,
- 3 If you can - not be a watch - man, stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,
- 4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are ripe and har - vests wait - ing; who will bear the sheaves a - way?"  
you can tell the love of Je - sus, you can say he died for all.  
point - ing out the path to heav - en, of - f'ring life and peace to all,  
while the mul - ti - tudes are dy - ing, and the Mas - ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; rich re - ward he of - fers thee.  
If you can - not rouse the wick - ed with the judg - ment's dread a - larms,  
with your prayers and with your of - f'nings you can do what God de - mands;  
Take the task he gives you glad - ly, let his work your plea - sure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me?"  
you can lead the lit - tle chil - dren to the Sav - ior's wait - ing arms.  
you can be like faith - ful Aar - on, hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.  
an - swer quick - ly when he call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text: (st. 3) unknown, alt.; (sts. 1-2, 4): Daniel March, 1816-1909, sts. 1,2,4, abr., alt  
Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838-1896. Text and tune: Public domain

## Announcements

### *Church Cleaners*

February 1 – Barnabas / February 8 – Luke

### *Easter for Kids Volunteer Request*

We are hoping to host an Easter for Kids on March 21 from 1:30pm – 4:30pm. If you would be willing to help out for this event, contact Rebecca Hill at (613) 404-6874 or [rschroeder@rogers.com](mailto:rschroeder@rogers.com).

## DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (25) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour
- Tu (27) 7:00 pm Council Meeting
- We (28) 10:30 am Communicating Christ  
7:00 pm Communicating Christ
- Fr (29) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- Su (1) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am *Worship with Communion***  
11:45 am First Fellowship  
**3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore**  
4:00 pm Bible Class in Poltimore
- We (4) 10:30 am Communicating Christ  
7:00 pm Communicating Christ
- Th (5) 10:30 am Devotion at Longfield Manor
- Fr (6) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (8) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour  
4:30 pm Installation of Pastor David Pagel  
(Hope Toronto)



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## **Acknowledgments**

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship

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