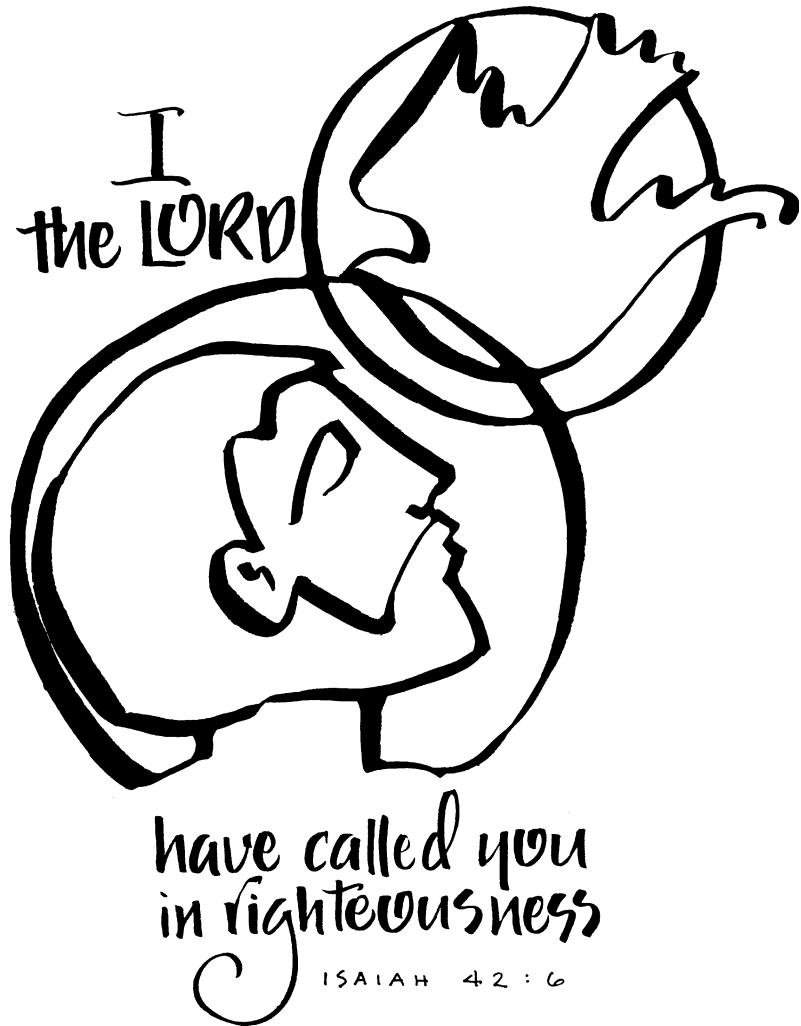


**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**  
**JANUARY 11, 2026**

**January 11, 2026**  
**Baptism of Our Lord**

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE** *Larghetto pastorale\** - Domenico Zipoli

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**\*CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in **+** Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## \*GATHERING SONG *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* (ELW 310)



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;  
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - them be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - them be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - them be to thee ad-dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,  
God in flesh made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

## \*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.**

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Father Most Holy* (ELW 415)



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our  
2 Trin - i - ty bless-ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en; good - ness un -  
3 Mak - er of all things, all thy crea-tures praise thee; all for thy  
4 Lord God Al - might-y, un - to thee be glo - ry, one in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,  
bound-ed, ver - y God of heav - en, light of the an - gels,  
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; now, as we al - so  
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, light nev - er wan - ing.  
joy of those for - sak - en, hope of all liv - ing.  
wor - ship thee de - vout - ly, hear thou our voic - es.  
praise thee and a - dore thee, now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin hymn, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

Music: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, Paris Antiphoner, 1681

Text from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**    "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"    African American Spiritual

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

<sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
    my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
    he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
    or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
    and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
    he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
    until he has established justice in the earth,  
    and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD,  
    who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
    who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
    and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
    I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
    a light to the nations,  
    <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
    from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
    my glory I give to no other,  
    nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
    and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
    I tell you of them.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 29**

**(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)**

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the <sup>1</sup>LORD, you gods,  
    ascribe to the LORD glo- <sup>1</sup>ry and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory <sup>1</sup>due God's name;**  
    **worship the LORD in the beau- <sup>1</sup>ty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of <sup>1</sup>glory thunders;  
    the LORD is upon the <sup>1</sup>mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts.

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW S 205A)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## \*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Rev. Julia Brown

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways* (ACS 916)



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on  
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;  
3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.  
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.  
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,  
The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:  
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



“You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice.”  
“You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord.”

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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**Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the apostles' creed.**

### \*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 THE CHURCH (Please respond.)**

*P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.*

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**\*OFFERTORY (VS 1 & 3) *For the Fruit of All Creation* (ELW 679)**



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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## **\*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:**

Holy God,  
Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness,  
we hear your Word in the scriptures,  
proclaiming to us your wisdom  
and inviting us to follow your call.  
For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God.  
**We thank you, O God.**

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother,  
who preached your righteousness, healed the sick,  
and revived the brokenhearted.  
For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God.  
**We worship you, O God.**

By your Spirit, bless all who receive this Word,  
that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.  
For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God.  
**We praise you, O God.**

Blessed are you, holy God,  
around us, with us, and in us,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

O God of justice and love,  
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way  
through life with the words of your Son.  
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,  
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom,  
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

## **\*BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✚ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## \*SENDING SONG *Let All Things Now Living* (ELW 881)

for-ward we trav-el from light in-to light.  
God in the high-est, ho-san-na and praise!"

 The music is in a simple, hymnal style with eighth and sixteenth note patterns, primarily on the G, B, and D strings of a guitar or banjo.
 

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

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## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** *Let All Things Now Living* - Dale Wood

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## SERVING TODAY

Interim Pastor .....	Rev. Julia Brown
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Organist .....	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher .....	Ron Coldsmith
Acolyte .....	Aaron Shreiner
Lector .....	Bonney Coldsmith
Securing Offering .....	Janice McEntire
Attendance last Sunday .....	31

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of the birthdays of our son, Wes (1-3) and daughter Susan (1-16) given by Mary-Jo and Chuck Bedsworth.

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

### **Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

- January 12 - Council 7pm
- 13 - Christian Ed 7pm
- 15 - Choir 7pm

**Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Julia Brown by email [jlouisebrown@msn.com](mailto:jlouisebrown@msn.com) or phone 703-434-9220.**

**Prayer requests for the following:** *Teahana, Carol Locke, Carole Rau, Peggy Weller, William Brindle, Patricia Yetter, Kaitlyn Dovey, Norm Kuykendall, Phil Johnson, Nancy Deardorff, Susie Bingaman, Patsy Wildeson, Glenn Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Charles Carl, Marty Wenger, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

**Please Be Aware: We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.**

**Communion will be served on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in addition to all church holidays.**

**Bible Study on John's Revelation.** Wednesdays at 10:00 in the fellowship center conference room beginning January 21. Books (*Faithful and True: A Study Guide to the Book of Revelation* by Greg Carey) are available for pick-up at the church.

**The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room.** The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

**Weekends of Wonder:** Weekends of Wonder is a children's Christian education program offered by Solomon's UCC. On the second Saturday of every month, children ages 3 years and older can join Solomon's from 9:30 AM until noon for stories, songs, and activities designed to teach about God and God's love. Meanwhile, our hope is that guardians are enjoying a well-deserved sabbath! For more information and to download the registration form, visit <https://www.mysolomonsucc.org/childrens-ministry.html>. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Julia to get connected.**

**SpiritTrust Lutheran has discount cards for sale, \$5 each good through August 2026.** If interested, they can be purchased from Bonney Coldsmith, Marjorie Dale, Becky Pecha, and Frances Reichard.

**Power Pack Meals:** We are once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2025-2026 school year. Please place the items you donate in the tote in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

**If you are not taking your altar flowers home,** please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

**The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room.** Please sign up for as many as you can.

**Bulletin Announcement Forms** are in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

### **Music Notes/Hymn Notes:**

Our gathering hymn this morning, “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise,” is found in the “Time after Epiphany” section of the ELW hymnal. The word “epiphany” means “manifestation” of Christ in the world. The text was written by Christopher Wordsworth, with the harmonization in our hymnal written by Johann Sebastian Bach. Wordsworth used the word “manifest” eleven times (my source said he used it twelve, but I only found 11) to describe Christ’s birth, baptism, appearance at the wedding in Cana, healing the sick, and his powers over evil. The hymn is not only one of praise to God, but a time for learning more about Epiphany and about Christ himself. ([Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins](#); Austin Lovelace).

Katherine K. Davis (1892-1980) wrote the text for our sending hymn, “Let All Things Now Living” specifically for the tune ASH GROVE in the 1920s. The text was first published as an anthem and descant setting in 1939 under the name John Crowley, one of several pseudonyms she used. A fine song of praise and thanksgiving, it employs Old Testament images, calling forth praise from all creatures, directing that praise to God, our Creator (vs.1). In vs. 2, we join our voices with the entire universe in a song of “hosanna and praise.” This hymn became increasingly popular, partly due to the memorable Welsh tune, ASH GROVE. It appears in many hymnals today. An interesting note, Davis wrote “The Little Drummer Boy” in 1941, under her pseudonym, John Crowley. ([hymnary.org](#); [Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins](#), Austin C. Lovelace, pg. 61)

\*This morning’s prelude, *Larghetto pastorale*, was written by Domenico Zipoli (1675-1726). Zipoli was an Italian composer, organist, and Jesuit missionary from the Baroque era (early 17<sup>th</sup> century until around 1750). The pastorale form, which he used, is an instrumental (or vocal) composition with a simple, tender melody, suggestive of the traditional shepherds’ music and idyllic rural life. You will notice that there is a low bass tone that remains unchanged throughout the entire piece. It is sometimes referred to as a “pedal point,” but definitely is not indicative of a problem with our organ this morning!