



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH

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Season of Creation  
October 1, 2023

## **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!**

At Christ Lutheran people of all backgrounds and experiences gather to worship because we all share a common hope: the life, death, and resurrection of Christ makes all things new, even us.

You will find everything that happens in worship printed in this bulletin, with hymns found in the red hymnals (“ELW”) in the seats in front on you.

If you have a prayer request, the yellow cards in the seatback holders have a place for them; the other side is for any information you would like about Christ Lutheran. Please feel welcome to remain seated as necessary during the service.

## **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN CHURCH!**

God’s people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to the whole community when the smallest of us are present! Sitting with parents and learning to treasure times of worship is the foundation for helping build a growing faith in a child’s life. There’s some noise and movement that we expect from little ones - feel free to make use of the **activity bags, doodle pads, bookshelf in the overflow area and cry room at the back of the sanctuary** as needed. Whatever sacrifice of energy and effort you make to include your children in worship is multiplied as the good news of God’s love takes root in their lives!

## **WHEN NURSERY CARE IS NEEDED DURING WORSHIP**

A fully equipped and staffed Nursery is available for both infants and toddlers during all services. The Nursery is located west of our gathering area in **Room 110**.

## **RESTROOMS**

Men’s and women’s restrooms off the Gathering Area and Church Hall have changing tables, as does the all-gender restroom near the nursery. A second all-gender restroom is through the Vestry off the East hallway, past the Welcome Center.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Holy Communion** is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

**In-person distribution:** When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. **WINE** is lighter-colored, and **GRAPE JUICE** is dark; they are received via individual cups in the trays. The **COMMON CUP** is available for anyone who wishes. **USED GLASSES** are placed in the basket located near the ramp. **GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE**, please indicate to the server that you require this. Also, if you unable to come up to the altar, let the usher know so that pastor can bring communion to you.

## **COVID Procedure Update**

**Masks are encouraged but optional during worship.** Naturally if you prefer to stay masked throughout the service, you are of course welcome to do so. Masks are not required for singing but suggested.

Our services are on video, and occasional photographs are taken for our website and e-mail news. If you have concerns, please speak to a church staff member.

*Hearing assistance devices are available to those who need help with listening to the service and are located at the entrance to the sanctuary, or please see an Usher for assistance.*

**A Reminder: Please turn off all cell phones during worship services.**

## **GATHERING**

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

### **PRELUDE**

*What God Ordains is Good Indeed  
(chorale & variations)*

Pachelbel



### **WELCOME**

*If you are joining us for the first time, welcome! We'd love to meet you, or if there's anything you'd like to know about the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church, please consider [filling out a Connection Card online](#) (you can point your phone at the graphic to the right) or using a yellow Connection Card in the pew holders.*

***Prayer requests** can be posted to the livechat or use a yellow Prayer Request (on the backside of the Connection Card) and give them to an usher.*

*If you are worshipping with us via livestream, consider **preparing your space for Communion**: light a candle (if appropriate and safe), and have a plate with bread/cracker/tortilla and a cup for wine or grape juice (or an empty cup as a sign Jesus is sufficient in one or both elements).*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, worship the God of all Creation.

**We gather to praise the Creator, the continuous source of all living things.**

Come, worship our God who breathes life into being.

**We praise the Creator who fashions the forests, whose trees clean the air of this world.**

Come, worship our God who forms life out of soil.

**We praise the Creator whose land brings nourishment.**

Come, worship our God who receives our lament in the wilderness.

**We praise the Creator whose Son brings healing to all Creation.**

Come, worship our God who sends waters flowing with life.

**We praise the Creator whose baptism unites us to be one in the Body of Christ with all Creation.**

### **CONFESSION**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who so loves the world and all who live in it.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, one another, and all of creation.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God,

**we harm ourselves, one another, and your creation with our sin and selfishness. We treat others and all of nature as if they exist only to serve our wants and needs. We trample your people and your wild places, and pollute your waters. Forgive us, loving God. Remind us of the covenant you made with the whole Earth, and teach us to trust your promise to make all things new. Amen.**

Christ, who was buried into the soil of the Earth and raised up to new life, + forgives you all your sin. Freed from your burdens, the Holy Spirit equips you to join God's healing work in the world.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN ELW #858**

*Praise to the Lord the Almighty*



- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.  
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

## 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.**

*Children: This is the day that the Lord has made.*  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Canticle of the Sun*

Haugen

*(The cantor will invite you to sing the refrain when indicated)*

**Canticle of the Sun**

Words and Music by  
Marty Haugen

The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, \_\_\_\_ and  
all cre - a - tion is shout-ing for joy. \_\_\_\_ Come,  
dance in the for - est, come, play in the field, \_\_\_\_ and sing,  
sing to the glo - ry of the Lord. \_\_\_\_

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of strange authority,  
whose questions challenge  
the powers of this world:  
teach us to look  
beyond appearance,  
to see your kingly rule  
emptying itself  
in cross-stretched arms,  
through Jesus Christ, the only Lord, the humble Servant.  
**Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

*When children read, they may read a version that is appropriate to their reading level and voice, which may vary from the printed texts.*

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

*The assembly is seated as children come forward for a time together.*

## **READING: Exodus 17: 1-7**

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **RESPONSIVE PSALM 78: 1-4, 12-16**

<sup>1</sup>Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**<sup>2</sup>I will open my mouth in a parable;**

**I will utter dark sayings from of old,**

<sup>3</sup>things that we have heard and known,  
that our ancestors have told us.

**<sup>4</sup>We will not hide them from their children;  
we will tell to the coming generation  
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,  
and the wonders that he has done.**

<sup>12</sup>In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels  
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

**<sup>13</sup>He divided the sea and let them pass through it,  
and made the waters stand like a heap.**

<sup>14</sup>In the daytime he led them with a cloud,  
and all night long with a fiery light.

**<sup>15</sup>He split rocks open in the wilderness,  
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.**

<sup>16</sup>He made streams come out of the rock,  
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

### **READING: Philippians 2: 1-13**

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death —  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

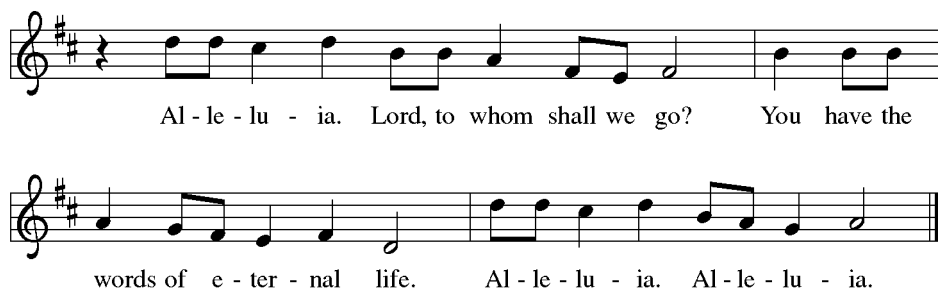
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



## HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21: 23-32

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the



kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #772

***Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways***

*The assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;

Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

## 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.

*\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

## PRAYERS

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. As you equipped Francis who we remember today, continue to raise up leaders to guide us in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air; bless all your beloved creatures in the wild and those close to us on our farms and in our homes. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority, including our mayor Matt, our Governor Eric, and our President Joe. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. In Columbia, Ecuador, and Venezuela, strengthen churches and all those who work for peace, justice, and human rights. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. As you did for Theodore Flidner, William Tyndale, and Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We invite those worshiping by livestream to share a sign of peace in the chat, and for those in person we turn to offer them our greeting of peace before sharing a sign of peace with one another: **Peace be with you!***

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## OFFERING

*This congregation serves our neighbors, community, and the world through the participation and support of its members and guests. Because offerings are never just about us, this month we are sharing a portion of your gifts with Lutheran World Relief [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org) and ELCA World Hunger/ Disaster Response [www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger) and [www.elca.org/disaster](http://www.elca.org/disaster)*

*If you wish to give electronically, browse to our secure on-line portal at [clcvalpo.org/give](http://clcvalpo.org/give) or use [our CLC app](#) (download at [clcvalpo.org/app](http://clcvalpo.org/app)).*



**OFFERTORY (8:00 am)**

*Te ofrecemos  
(Now We Offer)*

Honoré

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM (10:30 am)** *Eternal Life*

Dungan

*Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

(St. Francis of Assisi 1182 – 1226)

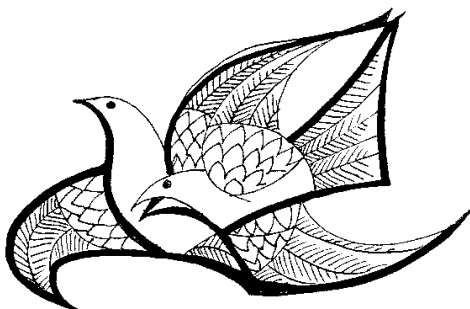
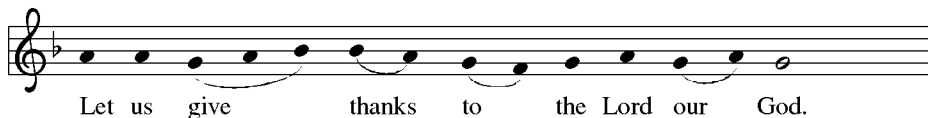
## OFFERING PRAYER

*The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.*

Loving Creator,

**all Creation comes from you – forests, lands and prairies, wild places, rivers and streams. As we bring our offerings to you, we ask that you bless them so that your kingdom comes on Earth as it is in heaven; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

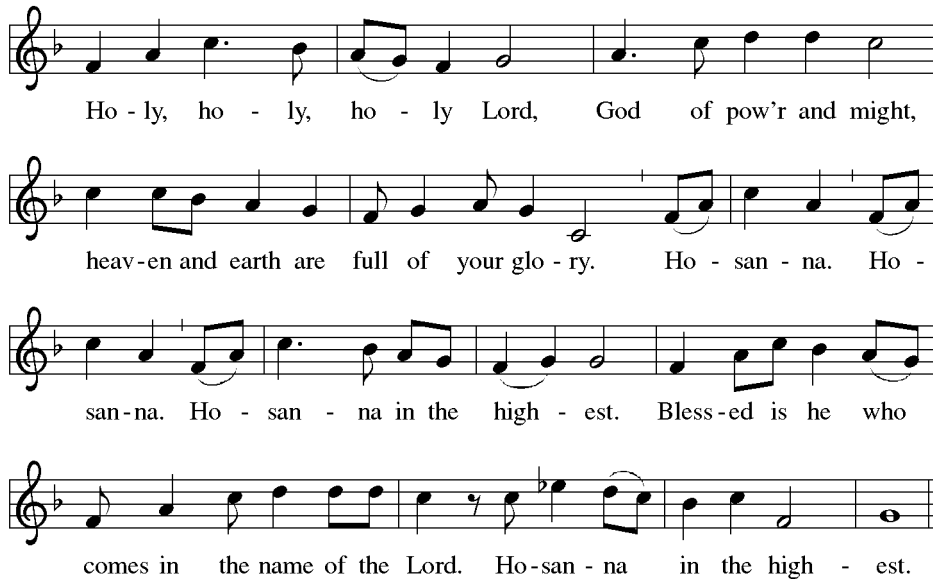
## GREAT THANKSGIVING



*The pastor continues the prayer then all join in singing:*

## **SANCTUS**

*(An ancient practice invites us to make the sign of the cross in honor of Jesus at the words "Blessed is he.")*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:  
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

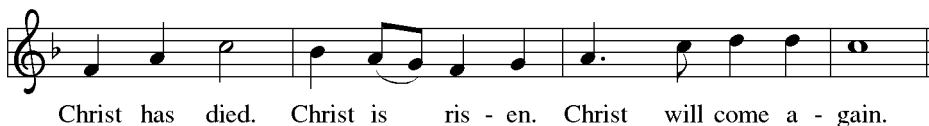
You formed the earth from chaos;  
you encircled the globe with air;  
you created fire for warmth and light;  
you nourish the lands with water.  
You molded us in your image,  
and with mercy higher than the mountains,  
with grace deeper than the seas,  
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,  
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,  
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:



With this bread and cup we remember your Son,  
the first-born of your new creation.  
We remember his life lived for others,  
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.  
We await his coming,  
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,  
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,  
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,  
whose breath revives us for life,  
whose fire rouses us to love.  
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.  
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,  
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God,  
receive our praise and petitions,  
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,  
and fill us with your blessing,  
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,  
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:  
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Children: The Spirit makes us one. We 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus comes to us in bread from the earth and fruit from the vine - come take your place  
at the table of God's creation!

**Thanks be to God!**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Holy Communion** is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

The pastor invites those worshipping via **livestream** to commune:

The body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen (receive the bread)**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen (receive the cup)**

**In-person distribution:** When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. WINE is lighter-colored, and GRAPE JUICE is dark; they are received via individual cups in the trays. The COMMON CUP is available for anyone who wishes. USED GLASSES are placed in the basket located near the ramp. GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE, please indicate to the server that you require this. Also, if you unable to come up to the altar, let the usher know so that pastor can bring communion to you.

## LAMB OF GOD



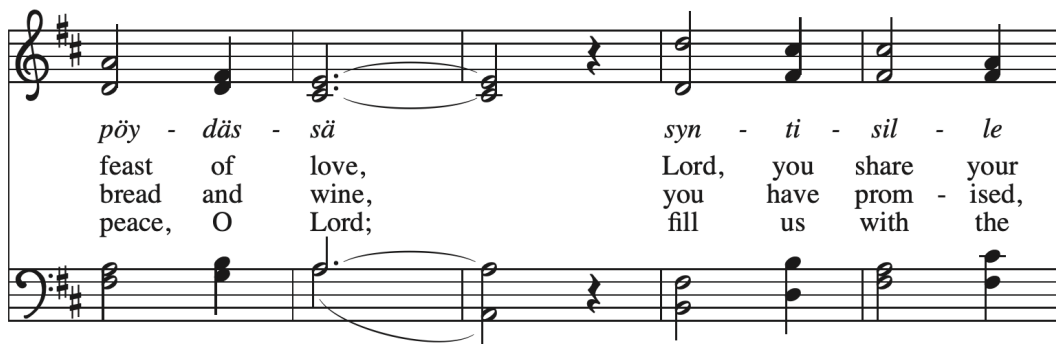


# COMMUNION MUSIC ACS #962

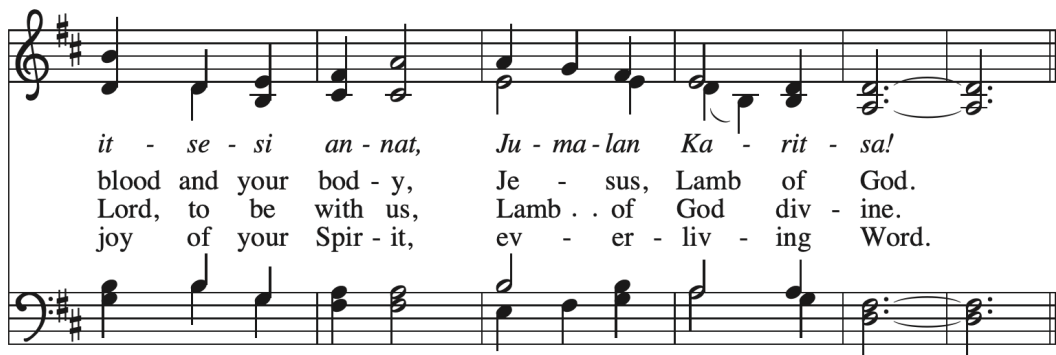
## *In This Feast of Love.*



*Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä,* *täs - sä*  
 1 In this feast of love, in this  
 2 In this bread and wine, in this  
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



*pöy - däs - sä* *syn - ti - sil - le*  
 feast of love, Lord, you share your  
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,  
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the



*it - se - si an - nat,* *Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!*  
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.  
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.  
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio

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**ELW #494     *For the Bread Which You Have Broken***

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,  
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,  
3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,  
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system contains the first four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands as the minister continues.*  
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God, you never give up on us or any part of your creation, no matter how broken things may seem. Jesus was broken on the cross, and in the resurrection the Risen Lord encounters us with new life. Send us, who have received his body and blood, as signs of your redeeming power - restoring our relationship with all of Creation and uniting us with the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

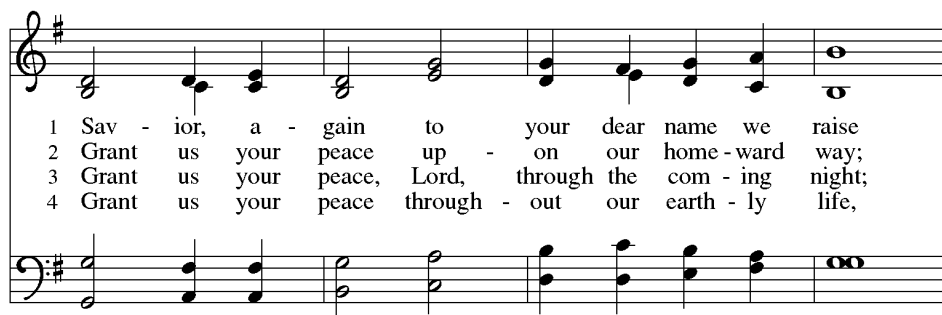
### **INVITATIONS**

*Brief invitations are shared, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.*

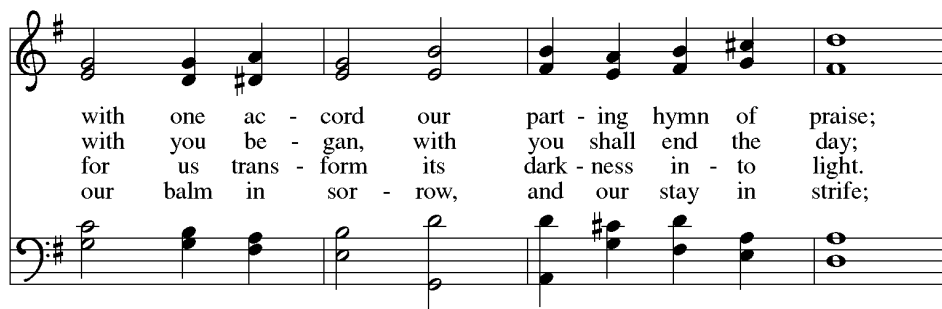
### **BENEDICTION**

Almighty God, who breathes life into you and all living things,  
who heals all the world,  
and who sustains all Creation,  
give you peace and purpose,  
in the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

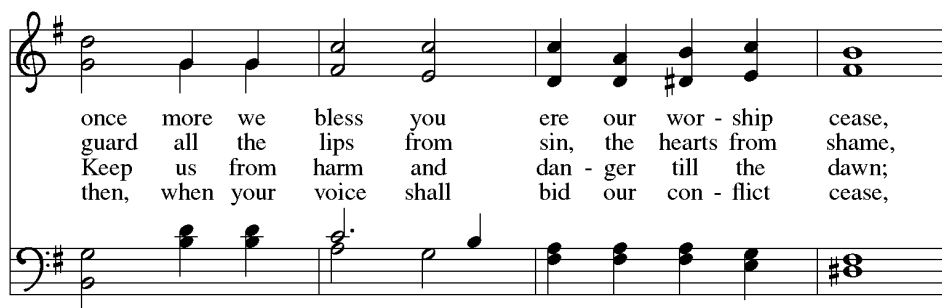




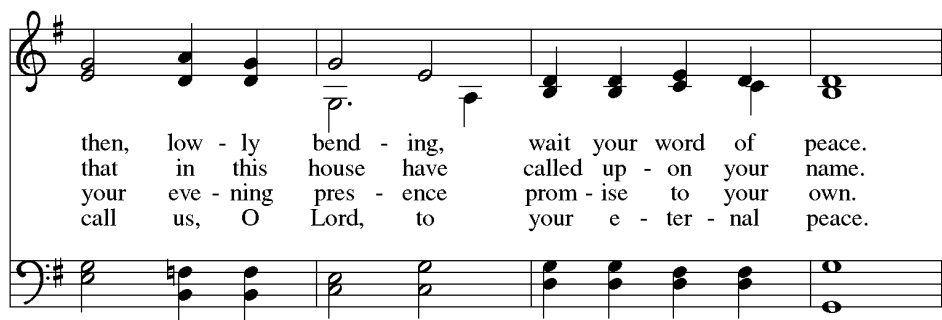
1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise  
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;  
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,



with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;  
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.  
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;



once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,  
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;  
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.  
 that in this house have called up - on your name.  
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.  
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

*Children join the pastors to send us in mission.*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for Creation.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

*Psalm XIX*

Marcello

*As worship concludes we move to the Gathering Place, where we are invited to greet one another and share in fellowship.*

<b><u>Worship Leaders</u></b>		
	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Acolyte	Sam Venstrom	Audrey Crill
Lector	Roland Albrecht	Phil Hahn
Prayer Assistant	Kathy Sutherland	Becky Fry
Communion Assistants	Erin Schmidgall	Phil Hahn
	Chris Schmidgall	Erin Crill
Ushers	Tim Sutherland	
	Don MacMillan	
Sound/Light	Zach Wehner	Jeff Peiffer
Video/Livestream	-----	John Buggeln
Pastors	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr.	
	Rev. Erica Gibson-Even	
Director of Music Ministries	Brian Bartusch	
Worship Participants	Sanctuary Choir	
	Luke Venstrom, cantor	
	Heather Budnik and Lois Felten, flute	

## COMMEMORATIONS

### *Week of October 1*

#### **October 4**

##### **Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226**

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching “using words if necessary.” Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God’s creation.

#### **October 4**

##### **Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864**

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

#### **October 6**

##### **William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536**

Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

#### **October 7**

##### **Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787**

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

## **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

his week we pray for the churches and people of **Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela.**

We are **thankful** for:

- the beauty in these countries, including in their people and cultural traditions
- persistent, patient, prophetic work of churches and ecumenical and other organizations, to establish peace with justice throughout the region, especially in Colombia
- resistance to past colonization, and to practices of today that prioritize economic ideologies over the needs of the people  
efforts by churches and people of goodwill for inclusive and respectful relations in society and government.

We **pray** for:

- the continued pursuit of peace in Colombia, the fulfilment of agreements reached, the reintegration of insurgents into society, broad and inclusive dialogue for justice, and fair compensation of those victimized by conflict
- the strengthening of democratically elected governments in the region, without pressure from outside interests
- greater respect for the human rights of all, especially vulnerable populations and those who work for the wellbeing of others and of the environment

### ***Stewardship Snippet***

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.*

– **Philippians 2:3-4**

When we consider the interests of others something beautiful happens: Our own interests seem less important, our wants fewer, and relationships flourish. Only by aligning our wills and lives with Christ may we grow into the fullness of life God desires and intends for us.

**Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone** (c. 1181 – 3 October 1226), known as **Francis of Assisi** OFM (Italian: *Francesco d'Assisi*; Latin: *Franciscus Assisiensis*), was an Italian-French mystic and Catholic friar who founded the Franciscans. He was inspired to lead a life of poverty as an itinerant preacher. One of the most venerated figures in Christianity, Francis was canonized by Pope Gregory IX on 16 July 1228. He is usually depicted in a brown habit with a rope around his waist with three knots, symbolizing the three Franciscan vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

In 1219, he went to Egypt in an attempt to convert the sultan al-Kamil and put an end to the conflict of the Fifth Crusade. In 1223, he arranged for the first live nativity scene as part of the annual Christmas celebration in Greccio. According to Christian tradition, in 1224 Francis received the stigmata during the apparition of a Seraphic angel in a religious ecstasy.<sup>[8]</sup> He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land. Once his community was authorized by Pope Innocent III, he withdrew increasingly from external affairs.

Francis is associated with patronage of animals and the environment. It became customary for churches to hold ceremonies blessing animals on his feast day of 4 October. He is known for devotion to the Eucharist. Along with Catherine of Siena, he was designated patron saint of Italy. San Francisco in California, United States is named after him.

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