



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity**

Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 11, 2026**

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

GATHERING

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

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

SCHMÜCKE DICH (Now We Join in Celebration) Wayne L. Wold
Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table (Sanctuary Choir) Thomas H. Troeger/Michael Corzine

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

✠ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

All: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

All: Amen.



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
 2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
 3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
 peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
 poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
 he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
 the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY

LM and refrain

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

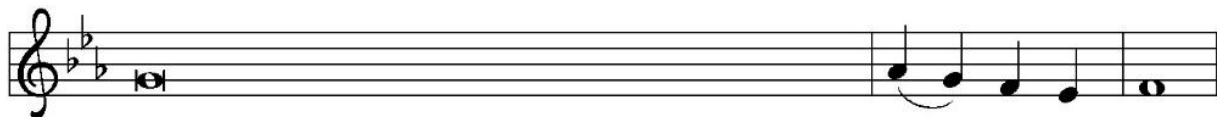
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



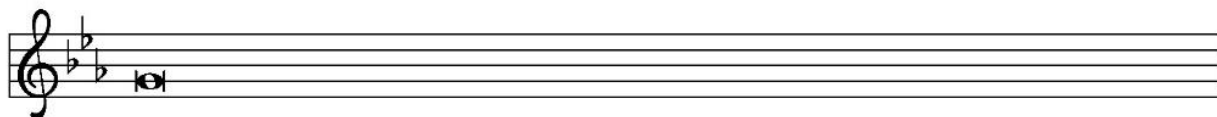
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



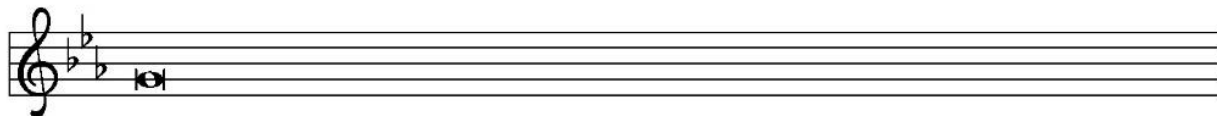
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

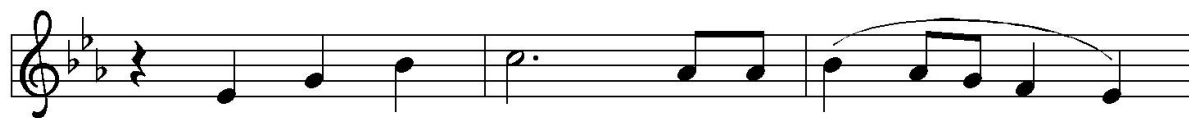


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

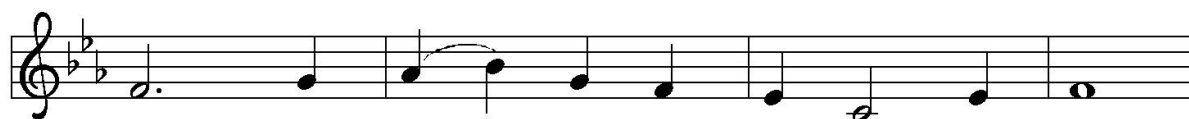


A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Glory be to God*



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



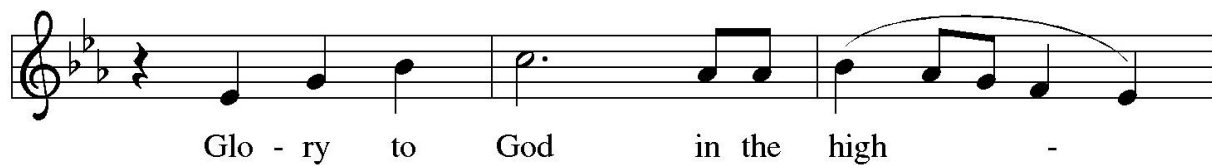
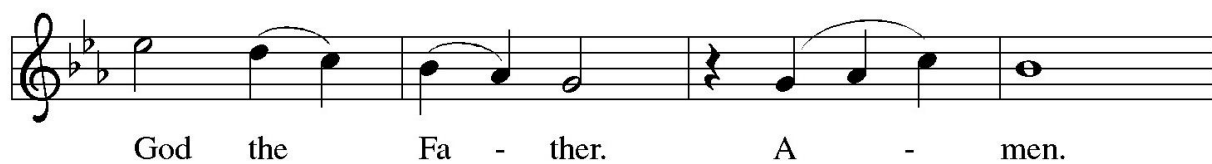
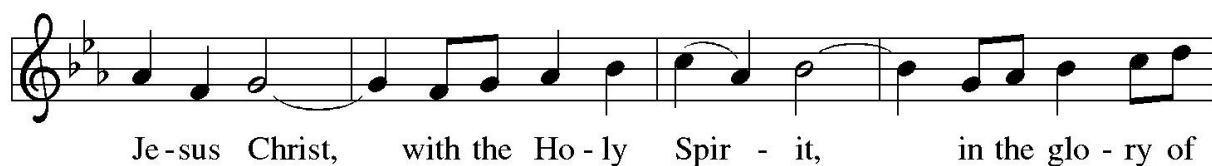
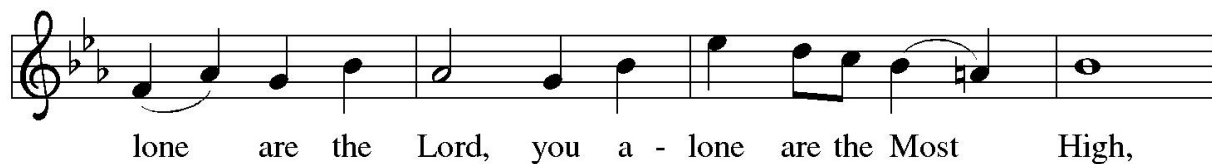
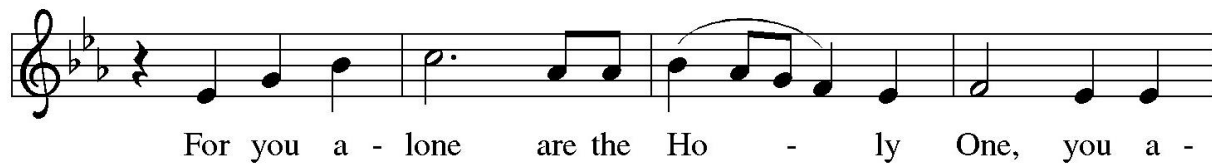
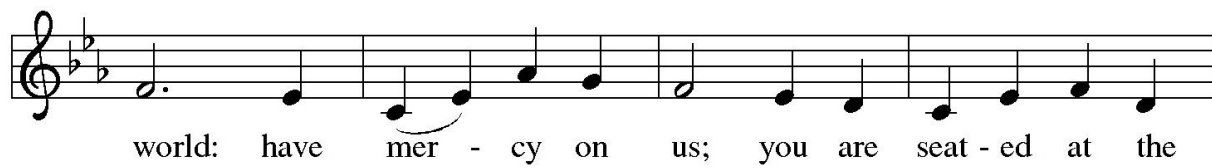
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

The congregation sits.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

¹ O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (*Congregation sings the refrain and the Choir sings the verses.*)

Refrain:



Verse:



¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

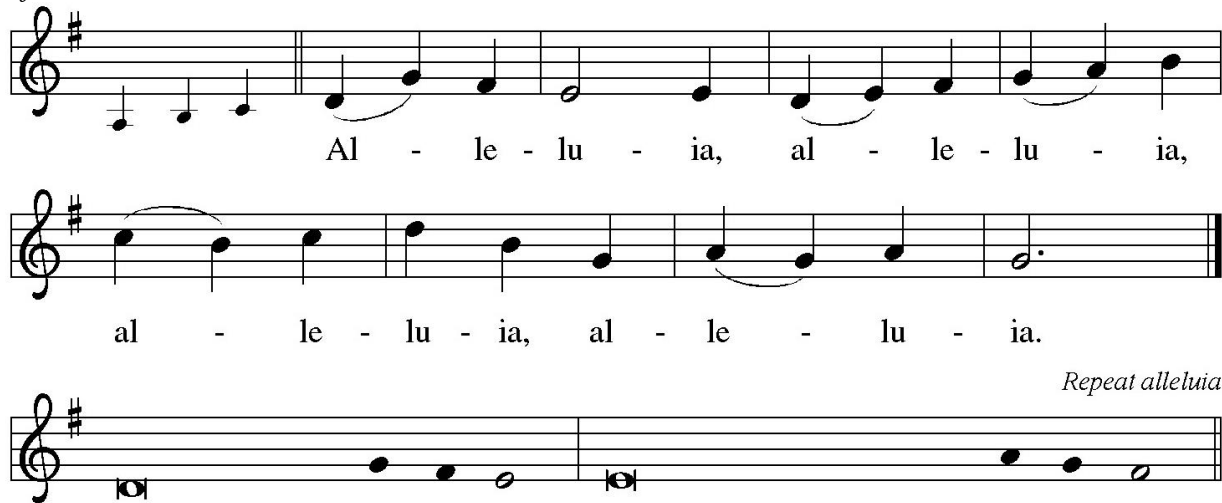
L: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

Refrain:



This is the LORD for whom ¹ we have waited;* let us be glad and rejoice in ¹ God's salvation.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
 All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation sits.

SERMON

Silence is kept for reflection.

The congregation stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Let Us Go Now to the Banquet..... ELW 523

Refrain / Estribillo



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the

me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is

re - te tie - ne un pues - to yu - na mi - sión.
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
 2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
 3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all

pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -
 (continued)

Refrain / Estribillo

cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
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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.**

The congregation sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Hear us O God,
All: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: **And also with you.**

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. While we are now passing offering plates during the service, you may still place your offering in the offering plates located at the entrance to the sanctuary or in the narthex. Or, you may make your offering online by scanning the QR code..



OFFERTORY HYMN: *I come with Joy* ELW 482
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray... God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

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

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

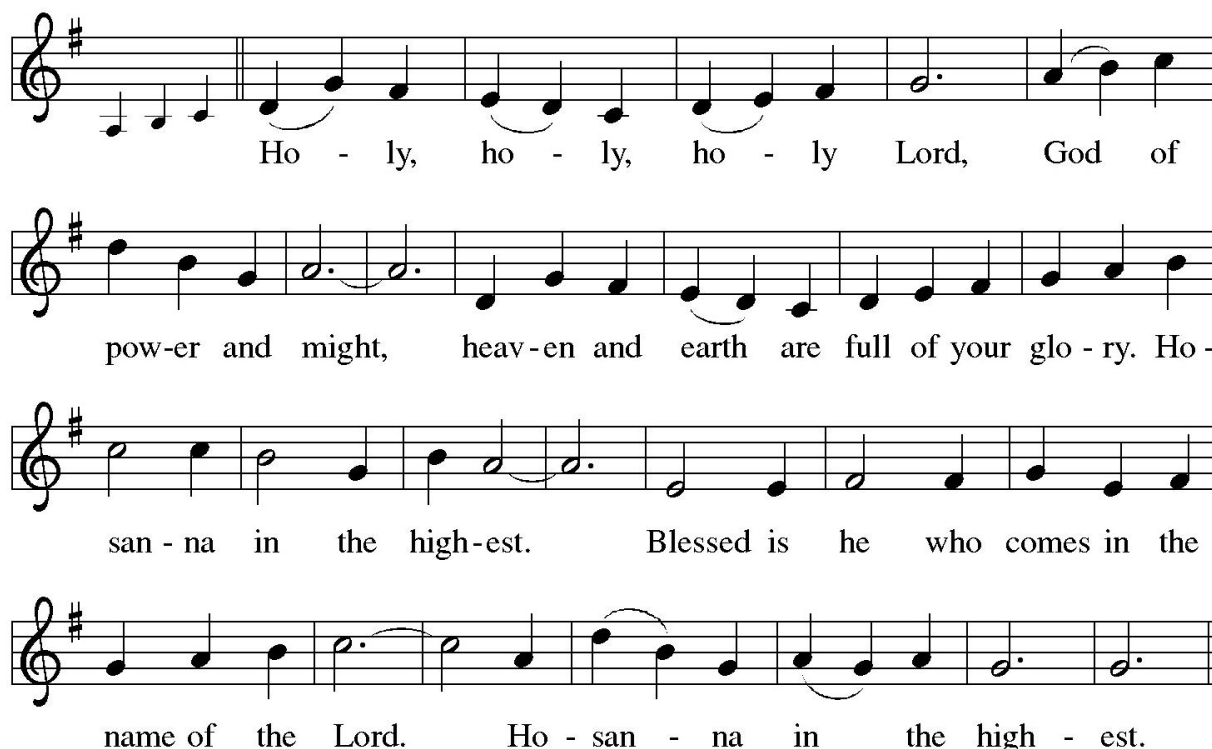
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign...
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And
believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great
and promised feast.

All: Amen. Come, Lord, Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to
the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

All: Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with
the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through
him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty
Father, now and forever.

All: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

All: Thanks be to God.

The congregation sits.

LAMB OF GOD

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

COMMUNION MUSIC: *Now We Join in Celebration*..... ELW 462
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen

SENDING HYMN: *Arise, My Soul, Arise!* ELW 827



Nyt y - lös, sie - lu - ni, nous' y - lös mul - last' täs - tä!

1 A - rise, my soul, a - rise! Stretch forth to things e - ter - nal

2 Now hear the harps of heav'n! Oh, hear the song vic - to - rious,



Käy jal - kain juu - reen Ju - ma - lan ja Ka - rit - san.

and has - ten to the feet of your re - deem - er God,

the nev - er - end - ing an - them sound - ing through the sky!



Ja vaikk' ei sil - mä - ni va - lo - a Her - ran kes - tä,

who, hid from mor - tal eyes, yet dwells in light su - per - nal;

To mor - tals is not giv'n to join in strains so glo - rious;



niin kui - ten - kin sä rie - mui - ten käy lau - la - maan.

so wor - ship God in hum - ble - ness, your sov - 'reign Lord.

yet here on earth we too can sing our prais - es high!



I - äi - seen i - loon ja juh - laan ja - loon
The ban - quet of love a - waits you a - bove;
Christ bought with his blood the ran - somed of God;

oot Ka - rit - san sä suu - riin häi - hin kut - sut - tu.
yet here you have a fore - taste of the feast to come!
to him be ev - er - last - ing pow'r and vic - to - ry.

Tai - va - han kun - ni - a on Her - ran ar - mos - ta
Re - jice, my soul, re - jice, to heav'n lift up your voice:
And let the great a - men re - sound through heav'n a - gain.

sun o - sa - si, sun pe - rin - lös ja ta - va - ras.
*Siis rie - muit - se ja a - jat - te - le au - taut - tas.
1, 2 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Arise, My Soul, Arise!* Valerie Shields

IN THE CHURCH TODAY

The bulletin is given in loving memory of Erik Lunde, father of Beth Dunham. A pink rosebud is given in honor of the birth of Claire Elaine McMillan, daughter of Casey and Elaine McMillan and granddaughter of Rodney and Stephanie Gross.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister: Rev. Susan E. Scott
Director of Music Ministries/Organist: Alan Hair
Assisting Minister: JoEllen Myers
Reader: Lynn Budgeon
Altar Guild: Bobbie Brehm, Trish Foulkrod
Communion Set-up: Deb Brooks
Communion Assistants: Rodney Gross and Jen Keeler
Communion Presenters: Rodney Gross and Jen Keeler
Acolytes: Malory Fox and Lucy Paul
Livestream Team: Kirk Sponaugle, Jordan Paul, and Adam Gardner

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Prayer Concerns: Joe Brittain (friend of the Dunham's), Sharon Ellis (friend of the Dunham's), Linda Goldhart (relative of the Bishops), Christine Hall, Andrea Hospodar, Ann Jonell (friend of the Dunham's), Matthew Kulbacki, Brian Lutz, Carol Miller, Jessica Noeske (Derek Dunham's cousin), Geri Phillips (Sister-in-Law of Sherry Welty), Edward Sellard, Josh Snyder (nephew of Linda Lubold), Kathy Spitler (cousin of Marilyn Layman) and Vicki Sponaule.

DAILY PRAYERS

Michael Fox, Virginia Frank, Dean Huebner, Sharon Murray, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all our **Homebound members:** Shirley Espenshade, Bill Fosnacht, Herb Huebner, Evadne Kopp, John and Ruth Knol, Carol Longenecker, Dennis Lubold, Chip Murray, Tookie (Delores) Peterson, Joyce Schroeder, Kay Smith, Susanne Wiest and Nila Wiley.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, and Tory Young.

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

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