

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**20th Sunday After Pentecost
October 15, 2023
Worship Service**

Announcements for October 15, 2023

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

***new names added this week (NJLC connection)*

Prayer Requests: Wayne Dunkley (NJLC member); Mack and Helen Keister (NJLC members); Jane Wichmann (Toni Chancellor-Adams); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox);

PRAYGROUND SUNDAY: Mrs. Cooper-Barlow will meet with the children during the worship service this Sunday to learn about God's word through Bible stories, music, crafts and activities. All children are invited to come join the fun.

ATTENTION: The updated Church Directory will be published on October 16. If you have not already done so, please contact the church office with any changes to household information: officenjlc@gmail.com or 540-822-5576.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, NJLC HAYRIDE: Meet in the church parking lot at 3:00 pm and the hay ride will begin at 3:30. After a ride on back roads near the church, everyone is invited to join for children's activities, hot dogs, s'mores at the fire pit behind the education building.

VISIT WITH ANN SHOMAKER: NJ's Women of the ELCA are planning a trip to Staunton, VA, for a visit with Ann on October 25. If you are interested in going, reach out to Linda or Sherry for details.

CALLING ALL KIDS! Come be a part of our grand procession and have a part in our Reformation service, October 29. It's also a PrayGround day.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5: We will lift, in prayer, the names of loved ones who have passed into God's Kingdom Triumphant this past year. If you have a name to be included, please let the church office know by November 1.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BARBARA LAMM: Barbara will be celebrating her 90th birthday on November 14. Her daughter has asked that Barbara's NJLC family surprise her with a flood of birthday cards for this milestone birthday. Barbara was a long-time member of New Jerusalem before moving to Washington State. The address is 6633 McDonald Avenue #18, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 22: Adult Bible study class on the Apostles' Creed, continues 11/12 & 11/26

October 22: Family Hay Ride

October 29: Reformation Sunday

November 5: All Saints Sunday

November 19: Consecration Sunday

December 10: Washington Sangerbund Concert

LIFTERS FOR OCTOBER:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>
October 15	Linda Heffern	Wegmeyer pumpkins
October 22	Kate Freeman	Garrett
October 29	Mike Zapf	Edmondson



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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Church Office
Pastor

540-822-5576
(703) 955-6714

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pastor.njlc@gmail.com

OUR MISSION: *Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.*

OUR VISION: *NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.*

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The pumpkins and gourds on the altar and in the windows are provided by Wegmeyer Farms - Tyler and Harriet Wegmeyer.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2023 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

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

READER FOR TODAY

Linda Heffern

PRELUDE

"Ricercare per Organo"
By Floriano Arresti

Mark A. Fletcher

We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

"Now the Feast and Celebration"
(see music on next page)

ELW 167

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.

Now the Feast and Celebration



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

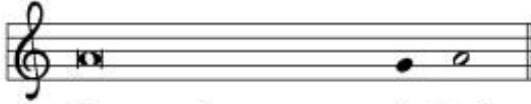


God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



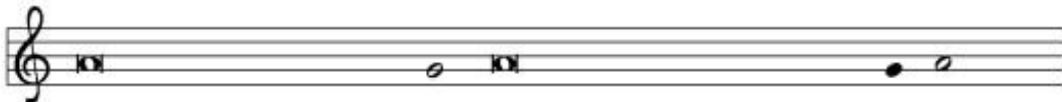
C Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: **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. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:1-9

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Isaiah...

¹O 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. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For 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, ⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶On 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. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he 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. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, 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.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:1-9

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of Philippians ...

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, 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 co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, 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. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22: 1-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

¹Once 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. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again 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.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those 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, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then 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.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

Pastor Phil Carl

THE PRAYGROUND

Children are invited to The Prayground for Bible lessons, activities, crafts and prayers.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”
(see music on next page)

ELW 523

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Vamos todos al banquete

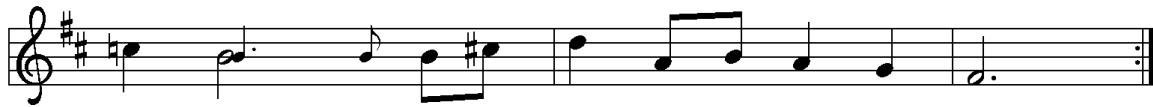
Refrain / Estribillo



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



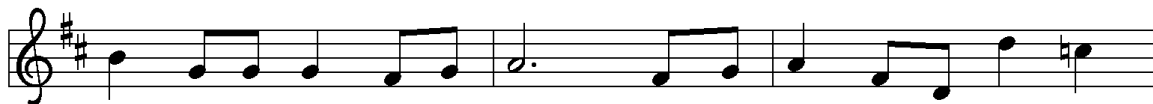
me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



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 -

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.

2 *Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe, donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo*

3 *Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad, trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo*

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

**People: 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 INTERCESSION

Reader: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: For green pastures and still waters and all the beauty of the natural world, that creation flourishes and humankind lives in right relationship with all you have made. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: For the nations of the world and all who hold positions of authority, that they govern in accordance with God's vision of justice, providing shelter and refuge to all in need, striving toward the goal of peace and prosperity for all. God of grace

People: hear our prayer.

Reader; For all experiencing valleys of illness and grief, that they be healed and comforted and find rest in the presence of the Good Shepherd who walks beside them. *(We pray especially for Wayne Dunkley, Mack and Helen Keister, Jane Wichmann, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock).* God of grace

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: For our worldwide brothers and sisters experiencing conflict and trauma, that they experience relief. We pray for those whose loved ones have been lost or injured in the Israeli/Palestinian war and ask that leaders of both sides may find resolution for the grievances which does not involve bloodshed. Give aid and comfort to Afghanistan in their loss of over 2,000 from an earthquake.. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: For this community of believers, as we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so the outcome reflects your will for our future. Merciful God,

People: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: In thanksgiving for the beloved saints who now rest in your mercy, that their faithful witness guides your church until the day we join them at your heavenly feast. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

“Adagio (from a voluntary)”
By John Stanley

Mark A. Fletcher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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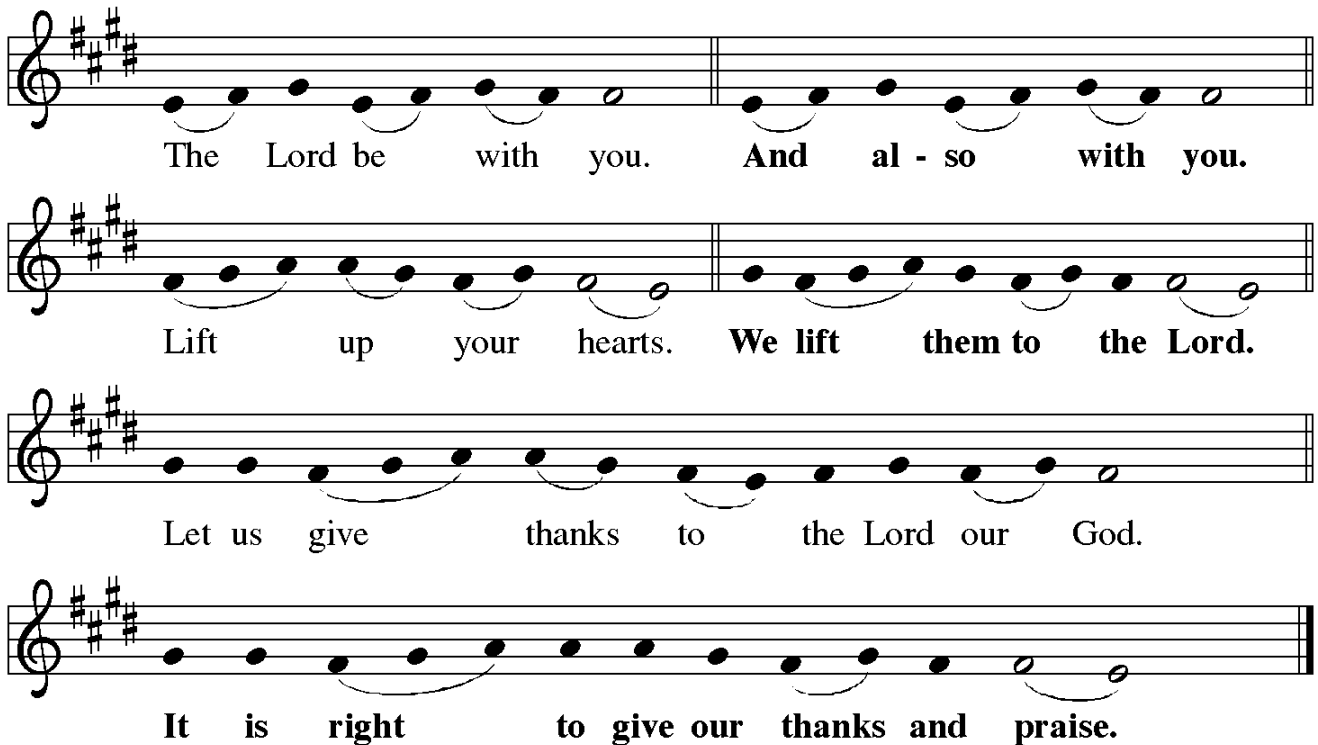
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

People: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

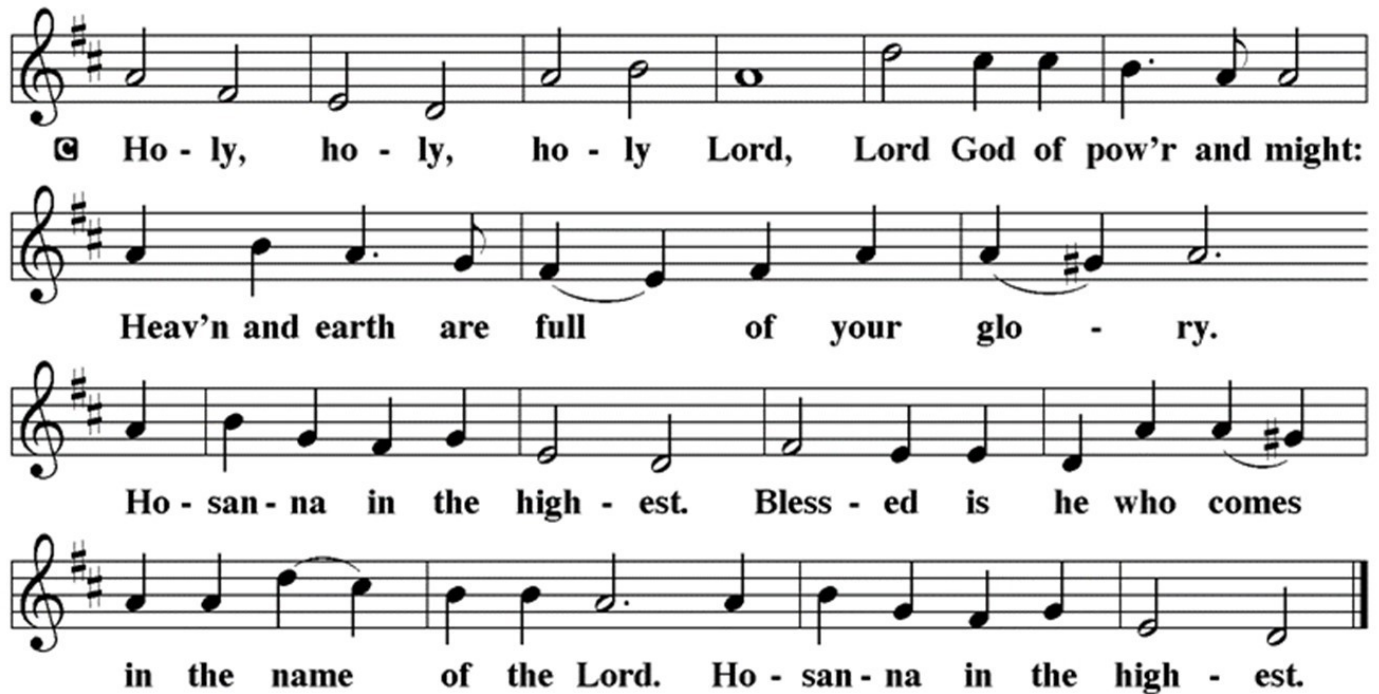
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on the earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as the Lord has taught us:

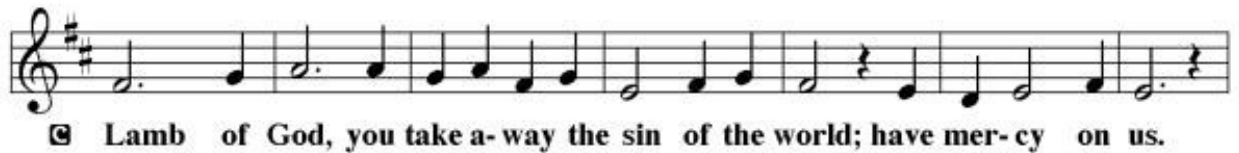
People: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for now all is ready.

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION



Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”
(see music on next page)

ELW 873

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Cornet Voluntary”
By Henry Heron

Mark A. Fletcher

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.

Following today's Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,

your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain

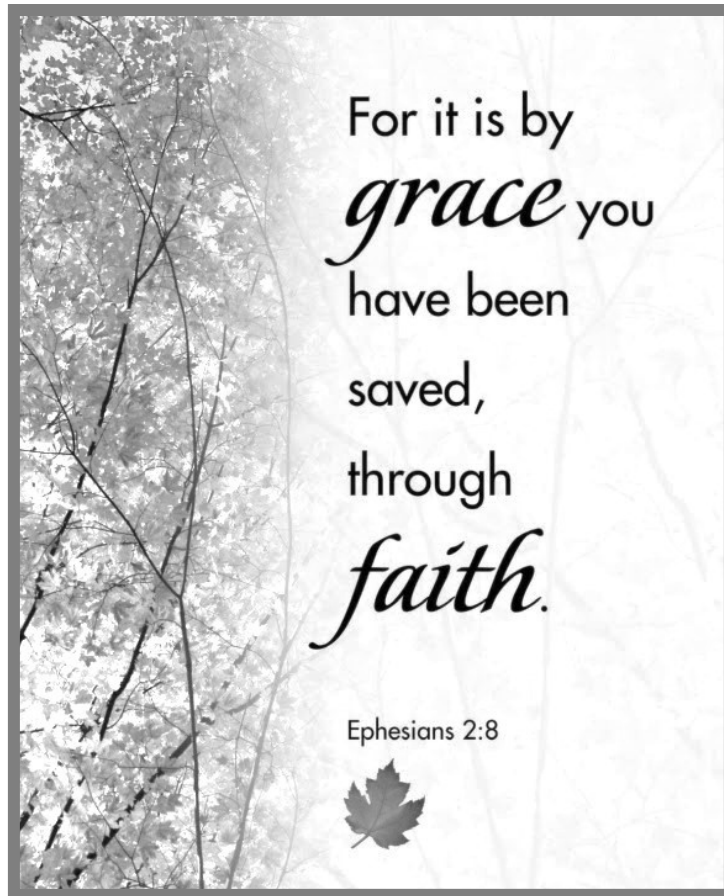
Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
 Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916



PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23

(not read during today's service)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. ²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. ³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake. ⁴Though 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. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.