

The Lutheran Church of St. Mark  
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## The Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

WELCOME TO ALL WHO HAVE COME TO WORSHIP THE LORD TODAY!

*Guests—please take a moment to fill out a guest card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.  
We would like to acknowledge your time with us and extend a friendly hand of hospitality.*

*Please **turn all cell phones off** or on vibrate before the worship service begins.*

*\*Stand as you are able, in body or spirit.*

*The responses of the people are printed in **bold**.*

## GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*Only You*  
The Folk Group

Bidondo, Hendrickson,  
Bryceson, Jones

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ✝ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life,

**let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.**

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that by your grace make us one with you and one with each other as Christ's body.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

**We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Amen.**



**\*GATHERING HYMN**     *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

WOV 767

*Refrain*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,




all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,  
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*Refrain*



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.  
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.  
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.  
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

**\*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.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*This is the Feast*

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



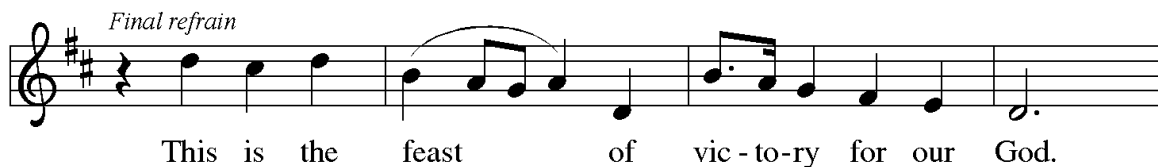
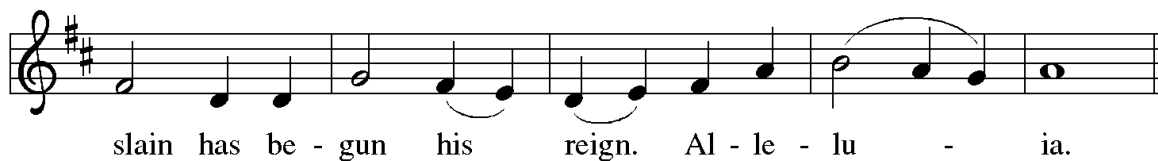
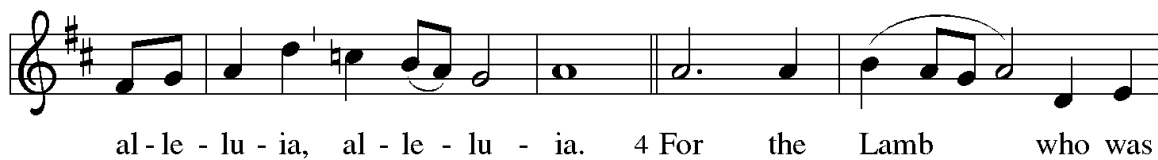
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

# WORD

## FIRST READING

ACTS 11:1-18

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

A reading from Acts:

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

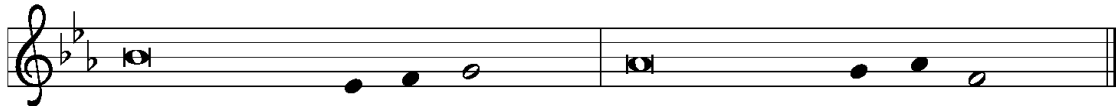
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The refrain is sung by all at the beginning of the Psalm and then at each **R**.*

## Refrain



## Tone



- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens;  
praise God | in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup> **Praise the Lord, | all you angels;  
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**
- <sup>3</sup> Praise the Lord, | sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup> **Praise the Lord, heav- | en of heavens,  
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**
- <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name | of the Lord,  
who commanded, and they | were created,
- <sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R**
- <sup>7</sup> Praise the Lord | from the earth,  
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- <sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, | snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**
- <sup>9</sup> mountains | and all hills,  
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup> **wild beasts | and all cattle,  
creeping things and | flying birds;**
- <sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers | of the world;
- <sup>12</sup> **young | men and maidens,  
old and | young together. R**
- <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name | of the Lord,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- <sup>14</sup> **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. | Hallelujah! R**

## SECOND READING

## REVELATION 21:1-6

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

A reading from Revelation:

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.



## \*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 13:31-35

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

## SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

*I Come with Joy*

ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## \*NICENE CREED

Living together in trust and hope we confess what we believe.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The assisting minister prays the petition., The congregation responds to the petitions that end “Lord in your mercy with: “**hear our prayer.**” and those that end “O, God we give you thanks” with: “**Thanks be to God.**” The prayers conclude with the pastoral petition followed by a congregational “**Amen.**”*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O, God we give you thanks. **Thanks be to God.**

Into your hands... Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## MEAL

### \*THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

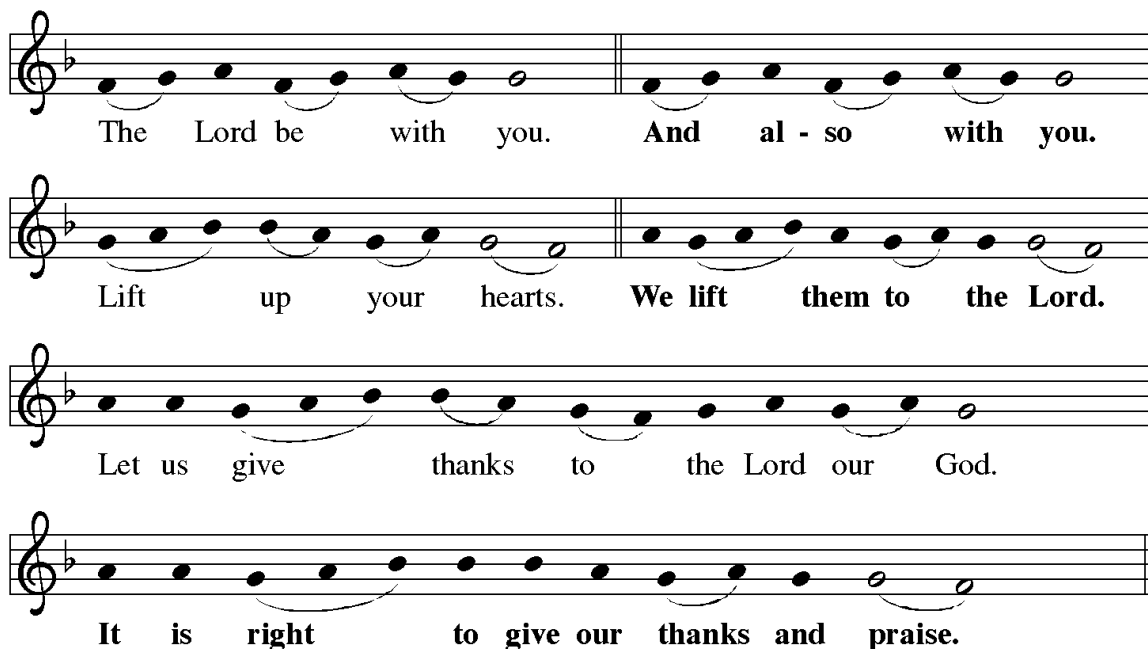
*Calumet Free*  
Christa Berezowskyj, Soloist

Richard Dacey

## \*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

## \*PREFACE 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.

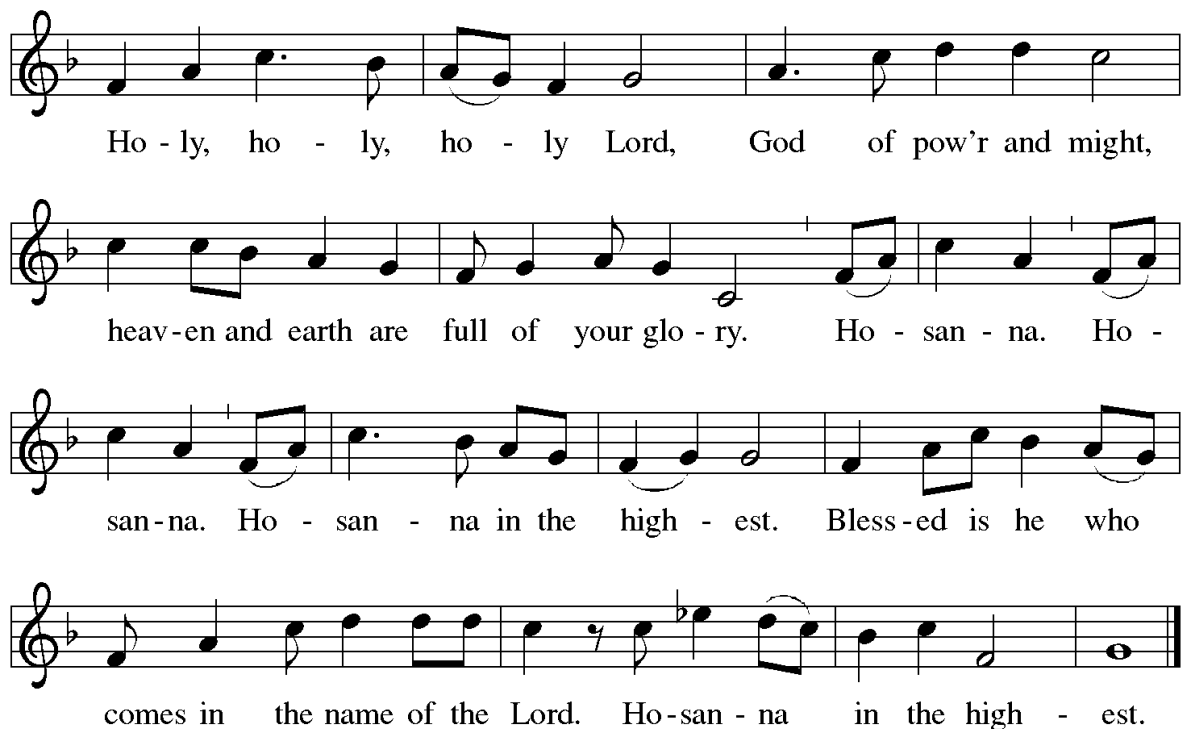
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## \*PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right ... join their unending hymn:



## \*SANCTUS



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.

## \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy ... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church,  
now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the  
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## \*COMMUNION INVITATION

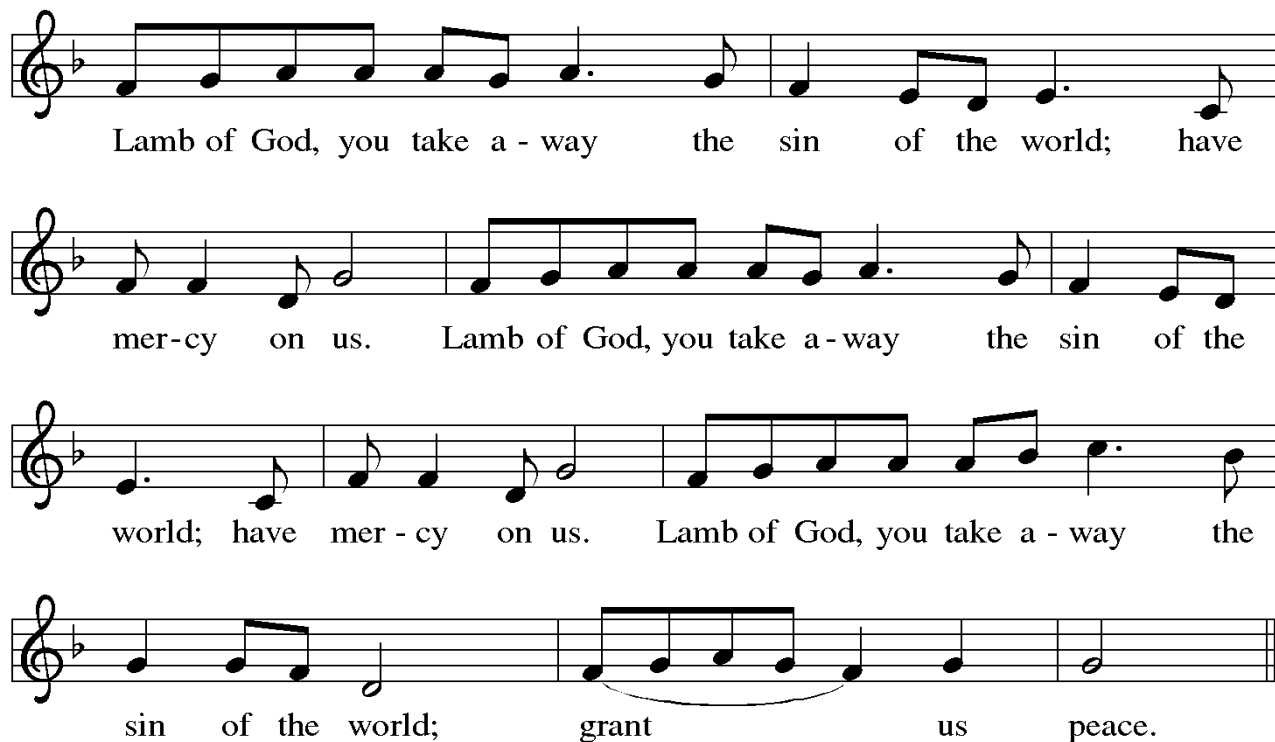
Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. Inform the pastor if you need a **gluten-free host**. Grape juice is available in the center rings of the wine tray. Children or adults who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament today may come forward and receive a blessing. Please indicate you would like a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest in the form of an X.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

### *Lamb of God*



## *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you,

I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up

Shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love

As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

I want to see you.

CCLI Song # 2298355 Paul Baloche © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

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## PRAYER IN THE ABSENCE OF COMMUNION

*For those on zoom or not receiving the sacrament.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation. I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion. I am baptized into your death and resurrection. I seek you daily and worship and adore you.

Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul, as you always have, through Confession and Forgiveness, through the proclamation of your holy Word, and through the prayers of your people; that I may remain united to you by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace. Be for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey through time, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death.

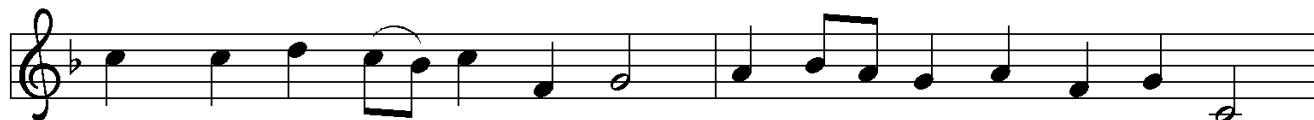
I pray all this, trusting that you are my life, my peace, and my everlasting joy. Amen.

## **\*SACRAMENTAL BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## \*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living One, **in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

## SENDING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*BENEDICTION

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN

*Spirit, Open my Heart*

ACS 1043

*Refrain*



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of  
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing  
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

*Refrain*



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

\*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

*Toccata*



Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Dave Taylor  
in celebration of my grandson Calvin's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us via Zoom for Matins on Tuesdays at 9:00am and Vespers on Wednesdays at 7:00pm.
- Please join us this evening for **“Spring Flight” with Eclectica: An Immersive and Visual Journey** on **Sunday, May 18 at 3:30pm. Please note the corrected time.**
- Please join us for **Cuatro Puntos: Sounds of Color** – blending Indian & Middle Eastern classical music. **Thursday, May 22 at 6:00pm.** Reserve free tickets at [www.cuatropuntos.org](http://www.cuatropuntos.org)
- **Please sign up** on the bulletin board in the Narthex, if you will be attending the **June 7th Jacob's Well Cabaret**. (Rain date: June 8). We want to rent the correct number of tables. Adam and White Rabbit are hard at work preparing music for the 10th anniversary of our partnership, with the theme of all things Disney. We are planning the baskets for the silent auction, all benefiting World Hunger projects. If you would like to help, you may bring a savory or sweet platter of something to share, bring a teapot for tea with the White Rabbit cakes, any LED candles you may have for yours and others' tables, with your name on it, and a favorite round or rectangular tablecloth from your collection. Thanks, and contact Linda Hilliard if you would like to help with preparations.
- The deadline for the summer messenger is Thursday, May 22.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Sunday, May 18	9:00am	Service of Word and Sacrament followed by Coffee Hour sponsored by Folk Group Friends
	3:30pm	Eclectica Concert
Tuesday, May 20	9:00am	Matins via Zoom
Wednesday, May 21	7:00pm	Vespers via Zoom followed by Church Council
Thursday, May 22	<i>Summer Messenger Deadline</i>	
	7:00pm	Cuatro Puntos Concert
Sunday, May 25	9:00am	Service of Word and Sacrament followed by Coffee Hour sponsored by Godfellas
Monday, May 26	<i>Memorial Day – Office Closed</i>	



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Lutheran Church  
in America

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