

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 8/17 *BLESSING OF BACKPACKS*
8:15AM WORSHIP
9:30AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLY - *JOSEPH*
10:45AM WORSHIP- *SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER*
NOON- NEW MEMBER CLASS

MONDAY, 8/18 6:00 PM—COMMUNITY MEAL

TUESDAY, 8/19

WEDNESDAY, 8/20 7:00 PM—WOMENS FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP PLANNING

THURSDAY, 8/21

FRIDAY, 8/22

SATURDAY, 8/23

SUNDAY, 8/24
8:15AM WORSHIP
9:30AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLY - *JOSEPH*
10:45AM WORSHIP

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE & ANNUAL PICNIC: **10:45am**

Join us on **Sunday Morning, September 7th**
at the Wendel Club on Hahntown-Wendel Rd, Irwin
Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex

(We will still have our 8:15AM service in the Sanctuary if
you are unable to attend the Outdoor Worship event)

Seton Hill Child Services here at Holy Trinity has openings
for early childhood education programs for Pre-K, Head Start
and Early Head Start. You can apply online at
Shchildservices.org or see the bulletin board in the Narthex
with the QR code to apply.

Welcome Members and Visitors today !

Sunday School Classes will begin on September 14 at 9:30 a.m.
Registration will be available online starting next week. Please
invite friends to come!

Grown-up and Me

There will be a new class for children 2 year and younger
with their grown-up this year. It will be a time for children to
learn about God's love and for their grown-ups to connect.
Please share this with anyone with children in this age range.
We also need help setting up this area. Please talk to Pastor
Sarah if you can help.

NEW Member Class will be held **today** from
Noon until 2:00. Please talk with Pastor Sarah if you

A meeting of all those who record the services has been
rescheduled for August 31st 9:30 AM in the balcony.
Please see Pastor John if you have any questions

Women's Faith and Friendship will be planning for the next
year on August 20th at 7:00pm.
Please join us if you can help with planning.

Bible Studies.....

Monday night Bible Study is off for the rest of the
summer. We will resume September 8th at 7:00PM .
Thursday Bible Study is off for the rest of the summer.
We will resume on September 11th at Noon.

August Community Meal...

Tomorrow, **August 18th**
Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.



Prayers for return to school

August 10th - Central Office Staff
 August 11th - Teachers, Student Teachers
 August 12th - Pre-K Students
 August 13th - K – 4th grade students
 August 14th - 5th – 6th grade students
 August 15th - 7th – 8th grade students
 August 16th - 9th – 10th grade students
 August 17th - 11th – 12th grade students
 August 18th - College and Graduate students
 August 19th - Parents/Grandparents/Guardians of students
 August 20th – For the First Day of Class



The **Altar Flowers** are
 given to the glory of God and in
 Honor of the birthday of Michael J. Walt,
 and in loving memory of Thelma Siegel-
 Thornton.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8:15	10:45
Assisting Minister	Heather Newell	John Howell
Communion Assistants	Doug Hillier Vicki Hillier	Lisa Lucotch Jeffrey Horvarth
Lector	Pat Koos	Jodi Waugaman
Acolyte	Garrett Fennell	Will Little
Greeters		Andrea and Brian Smith
Altar Guild		

Set-up Saturday, August 16		Vicki and Doug Hillier
Sunday, Aug. 17	8:15	Nancy and Doug Woodring
	10:45	Andrea and Brian Smith
Set-up Saturday, Aug. 23		Rochelle Belak and Vicki Rutkowski
Sunday, Aug. 24	8:15	Rochelle Belak and Vicki Rutkowski
	10:45	Nancy and Doug Woodring

Food Pantry

2025 Distribution Dates: Oct. 11, Dec. 13

Items needed currently:

Canned Vegetables Pasta Pop tarts Paper towels
 Beef jerky/turkey jerky Dried apricots/dried fruit
 Gummy snacks

Items always requested:

Mac & cheese/pasta Applesauce Baked beans Canned fruit
 Canned tuna Cereal Granola bars Pasta Sauce
 Oatmeal Paper Towels Peanut butter & Jelly
 Potato/rice mix Pudding Cups Toilet Paper
 PB & Cheese Crackers Cake/muffin/brownie mix

Many thanks for the generous donations to date! If you would like to donate money, please mark "food pantry" in the subject line on your check or you may use one of the pew envelopes. Food pantry contact: Jodi Waugaman at 724-516-9680 or waugawoman86@comast.net

Worship Plan for Sunday, August 17, 2025

Lectionary 20

Proper 15

10th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Introduction to the day

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** Pastor

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus

and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ☩ Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG *How Firm a Foundation* #796**

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

***GREETING Pastor**

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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY Pastor**

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

PSALM: Psalm 82

¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

² **"How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?**

³ Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

⁴ **rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ **Now I say to you, 'You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;**

⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince.'"

⁸ **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Celtic Mass
Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

*GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

The holy gospel according to

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens.

⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens.

⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The gospel of the Lord.



Children's Sermon

Blessing of Students, Teachers and Backpacks

Generous God, cultivate in these children and teachers the fruit of your Spirit as they begin another school year.

Fill them with love

for learning and for their classmates and students. Prepare them to offer a wide welcome to all who are part of the school community.

Fill them with joy

on early mornings and long bus rides, during reading and recess, in science and art, in study and at play.

Fill them with peace

as they start new routines and transition out of summer's ease into school's demands. Remind them to pause throughout their day for deep breaths and prayers.

Fill them with patience

as they practice new skills, share with others, stumble over unfamiliar words and learn from their mistakes.

Fill them with kindness

for the students and adults who are new to the community, who eat alone, who look different but desire genuine friendship.

Fill them with goodness

as they make choices each day that speak to their character and integrity. May the things they do when no one is looking give you glory.

Fill them with faithfulness

as they carry their baptismal promises with them into the classroom. Remind them of their identity as children of God, beloved and precious always.

Fill them with gentleness

in the words they choose and the actions they take. Help them think before they speak so their words build up others around them.

Fill them with self-control

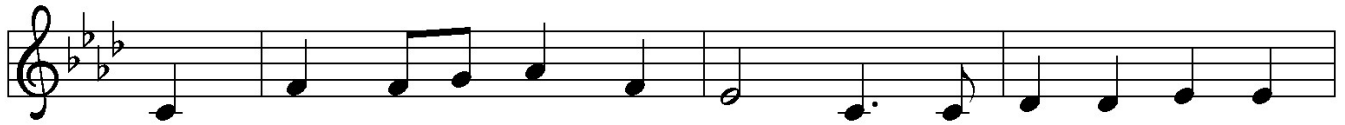
as they share space with others and make room for all learning styles. May they be an example of your care for all creation.

We ask your blessing on these backpacks. They will hold school work and will be carried from home to school and back again. As these students and educators carry these backpacks, may they be reminded of the love and care of this congregation that surrounds them each school day. **Amen.**

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day *When Pain of the World Surrounds Us* #704**

When Pain of the World Surrounds Us



1 When pain of the world sur - rounds us with dark - ness and de -
 2 We see with . . fear and trem - bling our ach - ing world in
 3 The church is a ho - ly ves - sel the liv - ing wa - ters
 4 We praise you . . for our jour - ney and your a - bun - dant



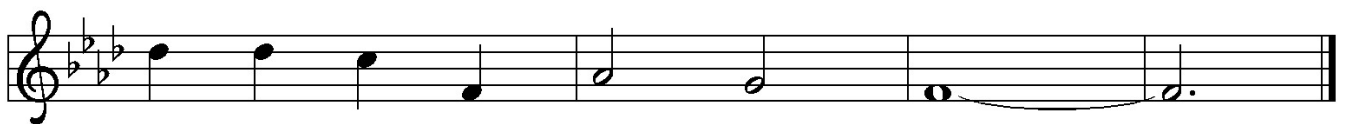
spair, when search - ing just con - founds us with
 need, con - fess - ing to each oth - er our
 fill to nour - ish all the peo - ple, God's
 grace, your sav - ing word that guid - ed a



false hopes ev - 'ry - where, when lives are starved for mean - ing and
 waste - ful - ness and greed. May we with stead - fast car - ing the
 pur - pose to ful - fill. May we with hum - ble cour - age be
 strug - gling hu - man race. O God, with all cre - a - tion, your



des - ti - ny is bare, we are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 hun - gry chil - dren feed. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 o - pen to God's will. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 fu - ture we em - brace. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and



let God's heal - ing flow through us.
 let God's jus - tice flow through us.
 let God's Spir - it flow through us.
 let God's chang - es flow through us.

***Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 ASST MIN**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God.

A brief silence.

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, and those who are sick or homebound (*especially*). Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PASTOR Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

***PEACE**

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

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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 the 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.

*OFFERING PRAYER *assisting minister*

Let us pray.
Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

***DIALOGUE** Pastor

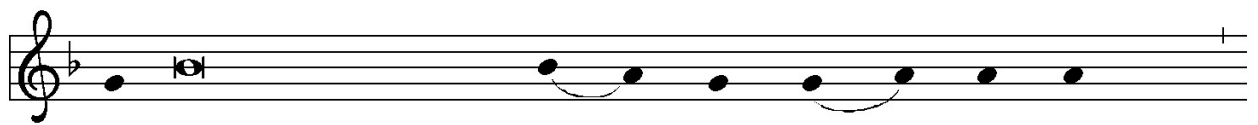
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

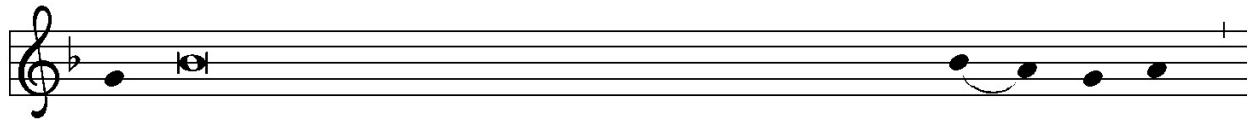
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

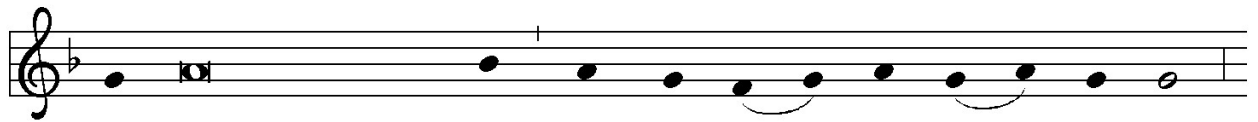
***PREFACE**



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



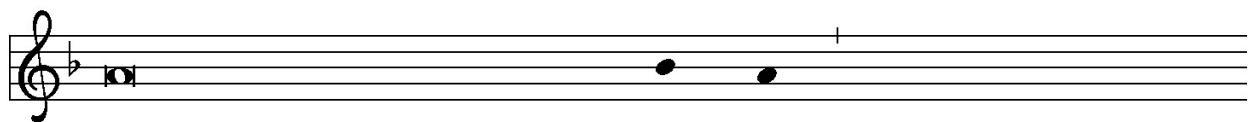
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



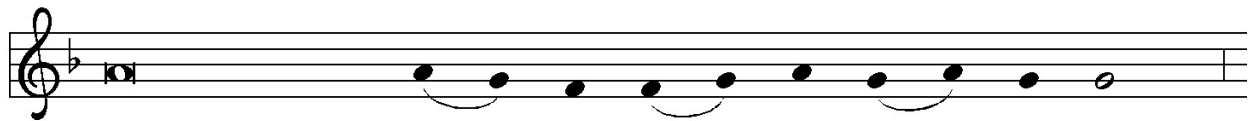
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;



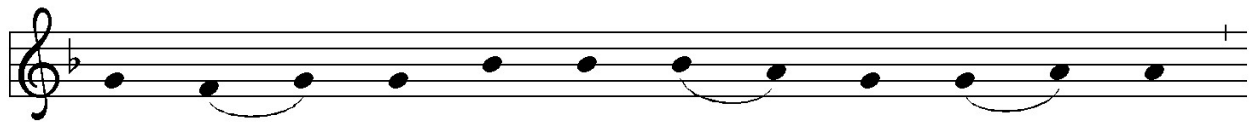
who on this day overcame death and the grave,



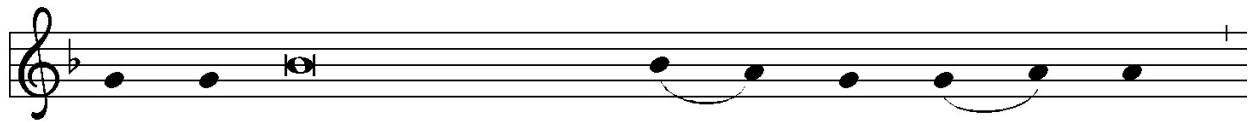
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion



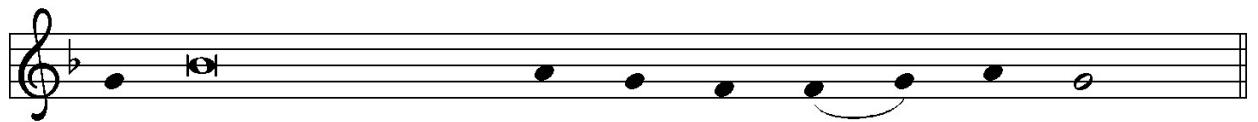
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

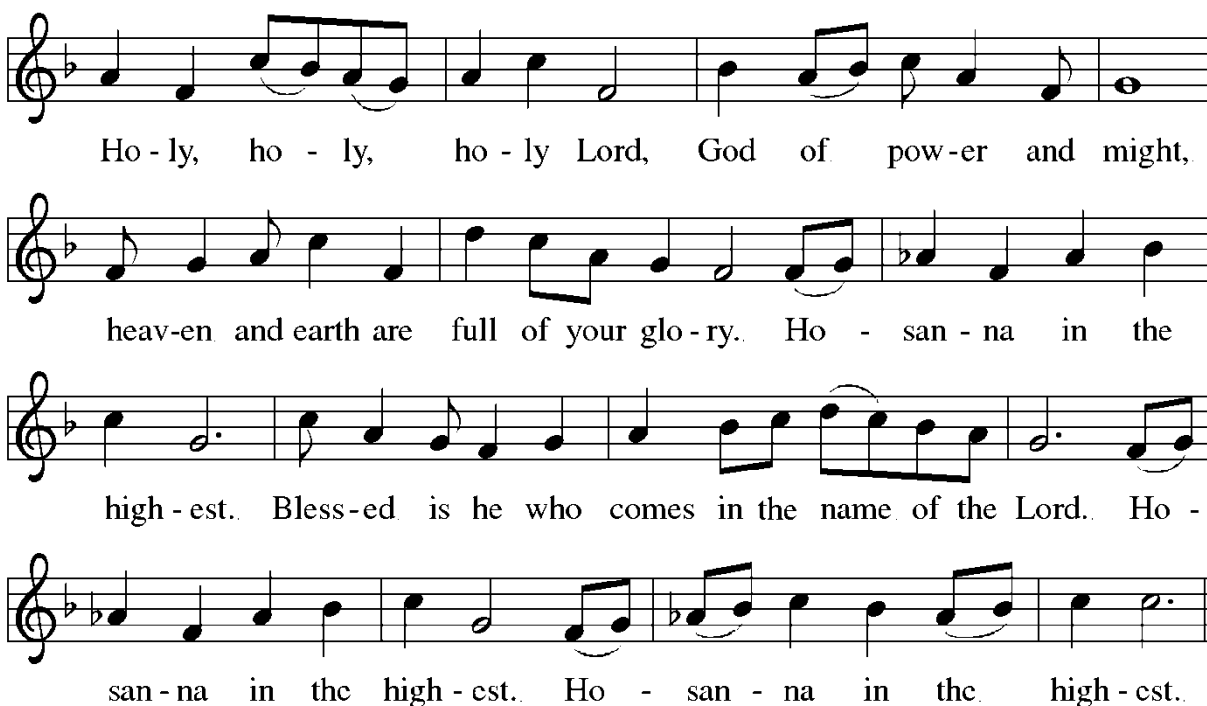


with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing 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. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER** Pastor

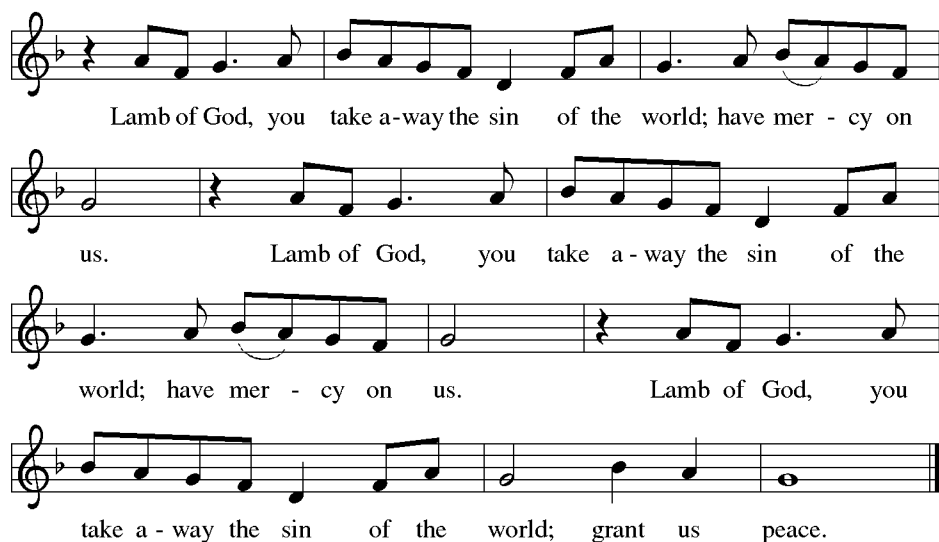
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION SONG



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.

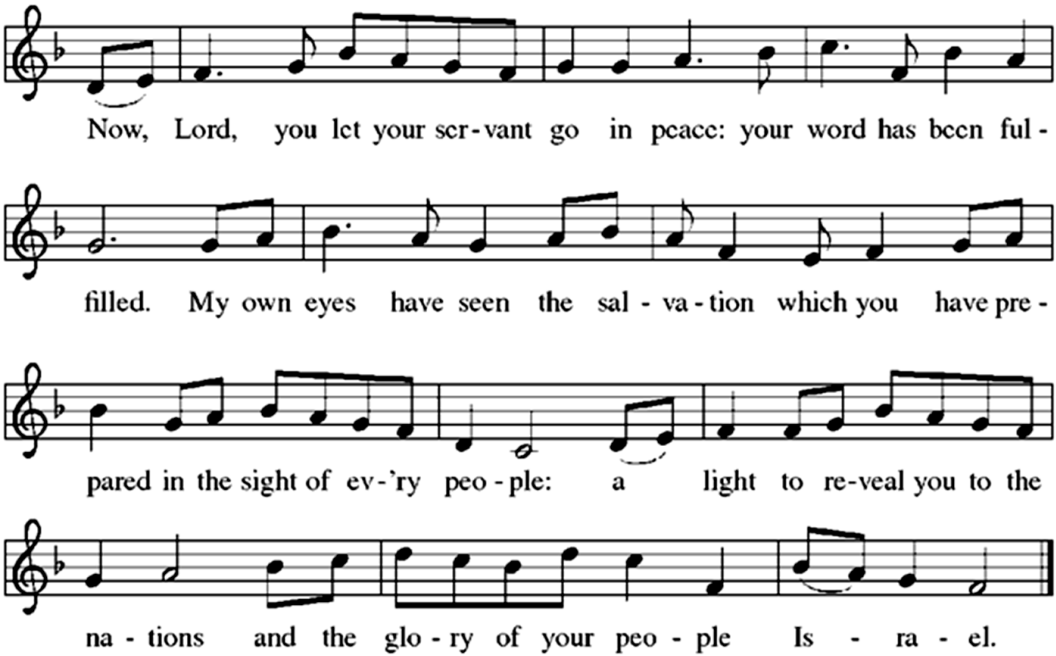
Communion

Hymn During Communion: ***I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light #815***

*COMMUNION BLESSING **Pastor**

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

*SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION **assisting minister**

Let us pray.

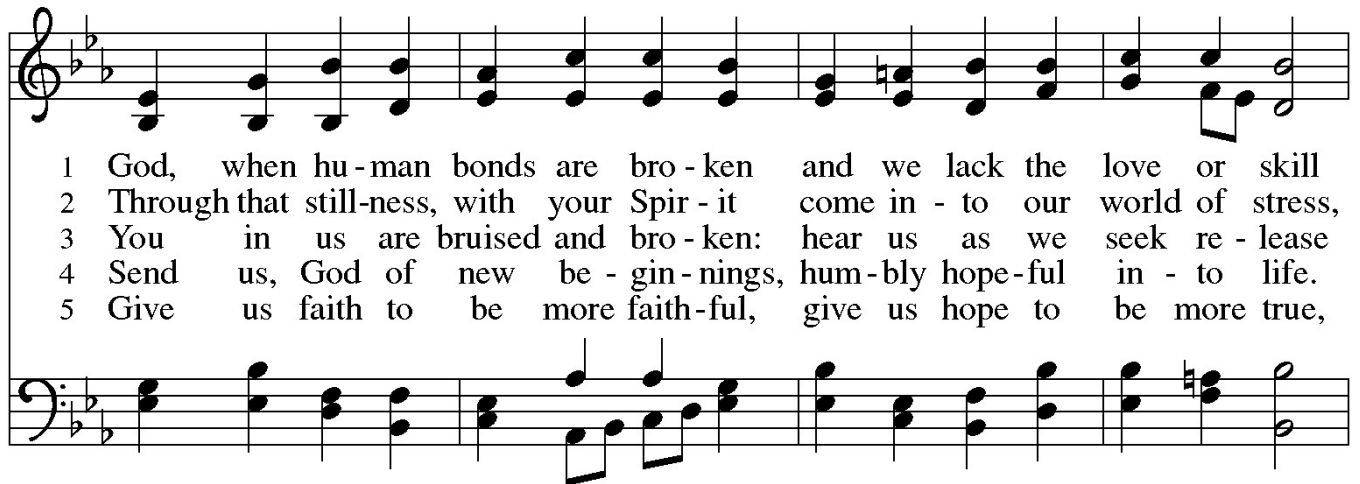
Holy God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION **Pastor**

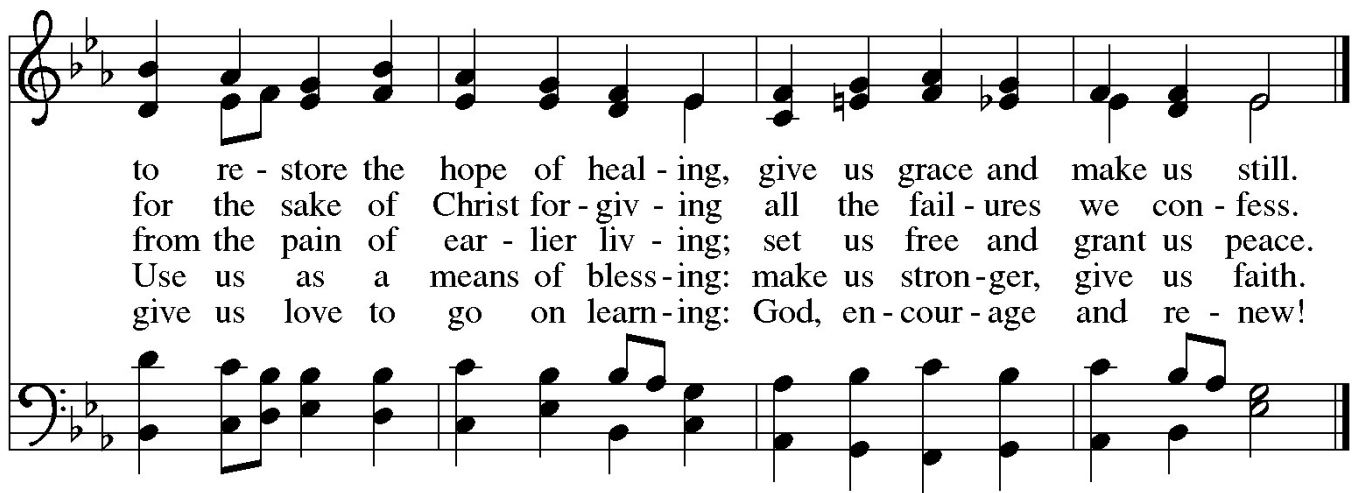
The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG **God, When Human Bonds Are Broken #603**

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**