

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY,	9/14	8:15AM WORSHIP 9:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45AM WORSHIP WITH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER 5:00 HIGH SCHOOL CLASS PICNIC AT PASTOR JOHN'S
MONDAY,	9/15	COMMUNITY MEAL, DOORS OPEN AT 5, DINNER AT 6:00 6:00PM PRAYER GROUP 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY
TUESDAY,	9/16	7:00PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING
WEDNESDAY,	9/17	7:00PM WOMEN'S FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP
THURSDAY,	9/18	12:00PM BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM CHOIR REHEARSAL
FRIDAY,	9/19	
SATURDAY,	9/20	
SUNDAY,	9/21	8:15AM WORSHIP -NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED 9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM YOUNG AT HEART BREAKFAST 10:45AM WORSHIP WITH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Young at Heart... will meet on **September 21st 9:30 AM** in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast. We will preview the topics for the upcoming months & discuss potential areas of service in our community.

Parking.... It has come to our attention that people have been parking in the former dentist office across the street. We have been asked not to park there. Thank you in advance.

Welcome Members and Visitors today!

Sunday School Classes resume today at 9:30am
Registration sheets can be picked up in the Narthex or email the office for the online registration form.
Please invite friends to come!

Grown-up and Me Class...starting TODAY!

There is a new class for children 2 years and younger to learn about God's love and for their grown-ups to connect. Please share this with anyone with children in this age range.

Bible Studies..... Join us anytime!

Monday night Bible Study has returned at 7:00PM.
We will be discussing the Council of Nicea - which celebrates its 1700th anniversary this year!

Thursday Bible Study meets at Noon in the Miller Parlor.
Topic: Who is Jesus?

Scrapbooking Join us for Scrapbooking in the Miller Parlor- Sept. 24th and continuing the last Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM.

Installation of Melissa Stoller as Bishop of the SW PA Synod

October 18th at 1:00PM.
At Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church
RSVP by September 15th. See Pastor Sarah for details.

Our Harvest Festival coming this fall...

Join us on **Sunday, October 19th following the 2nd Service** with all of our favorite fall foods and entertainment by Mikey Dee.

Look for information to come! Tickets on Sale soon!

Seating will be limited so mark your calendar and plan to attend!

Women's Faith and Friendship....will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 17th at 7:00pm in the Miller Parlor. We will be talking about rituals and traditions in our lives. All women are invited to join us!

September Community Meal...TOMORROW

Monday, September 15th

Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.



The **Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bastion McCune's 10th Birthday.

Senior High Sunday School CLASS PICNIC...

TODAY at 5:00 PM, Pastor John will be hosting the high school Sunday School students and their parents at his house. See Pastor John if you'd like to attend.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8:15	10:45
Assisting Minister	Jaden Brittingham	
Communion Assistants	Landon Hillier Delaney Hillier	Hannah Amantea
Lector	Jericho Brittingham	Justin Keiser
Acolyte	Garrett Fennell	Sean Keiser
Greeters		Heidi and Grant Darby
Altar Guild		

Set-up Saturday, Sept. 13		Tom and LouAnne Dawson
Sunday, Sept. 14	8:15	Lois Brown and Debbie Reed
	10:45	Tom and LouAnne Dawson
Set-up Saturday, Sept. 20		Lori Thomas
Sunday, Sept. 21	8:15	Lori Thomas
	10:45	Zack and Sami Tinsley

Food Pantry

2025 Distribution Dates: Oct. 11, Dec. 13

Items needed currently:

Canned yams	Stuffing mix	Mashed potato mix	Turkey gravy
Cranberry sauce		Kleenex	Bar soap
Antibacterial wipes/spray		single serve Chef Boyardee	

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, September 14, 2025

Holy Cross Day

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Introduction to the day

This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** Pastor

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

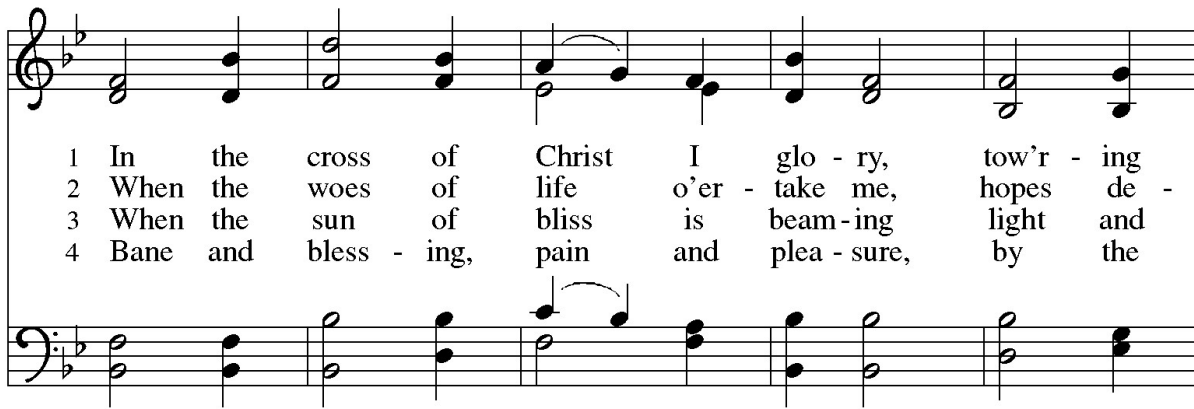
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* #324

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

*GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

FESTIVAL CANTICLE: WORTHY IS CHRIST

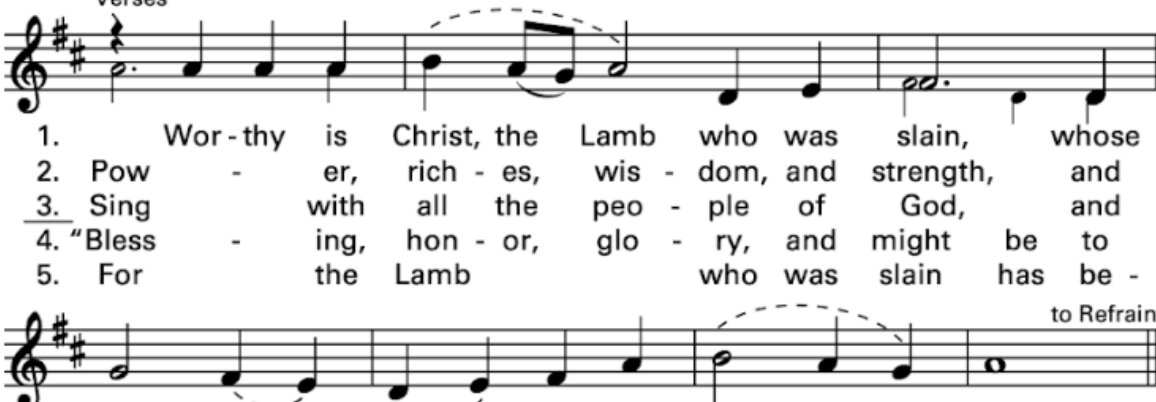
Richard Hillert

Refrain



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

Verses



1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4. "Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5. For the Lamb who was slain has be -

to Refrain

1. blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
2. hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
3. join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion. (to Vs 4)
4. God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men."
5. gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Based on Revelation 5:12–14; John W. Arthur, 1922–1980; © 1978, *Lutheran Book of Worship*.
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***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant those who look upon the cross, your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4b-9

When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98:1-4

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Celtic Mass
Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker



The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains the melody for the first line of the Alleluia. The second staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains the melody for the second line of the Alleluia. The lyrics are written below the notes: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." on the first staff and "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." on the second staff.

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: John 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to John.



The musical notation consists of a single staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains the melody for the Gospel Acclamation. The lyrics are written below the notes: "Glo - ry to you, O Lord."

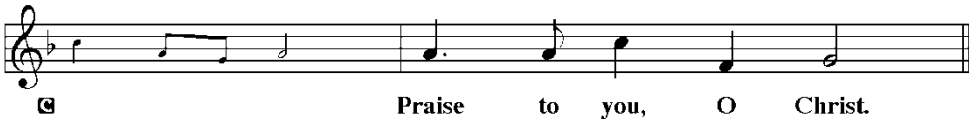
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”
The gospel of the Lord.

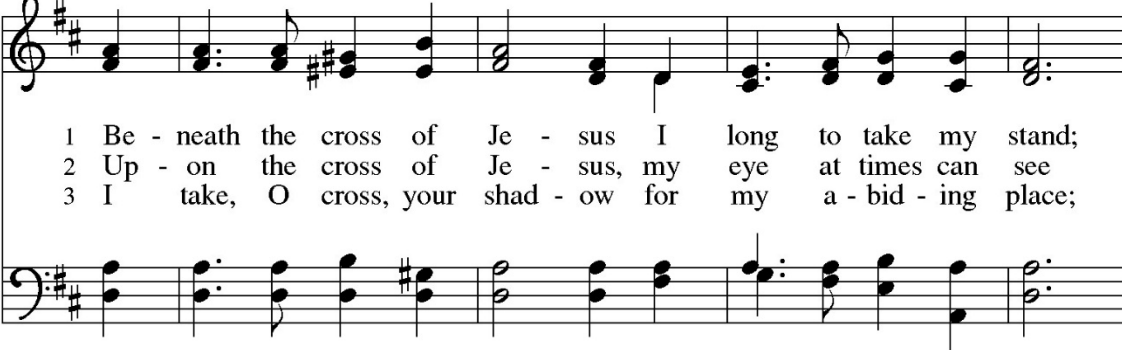


Children's Sermon

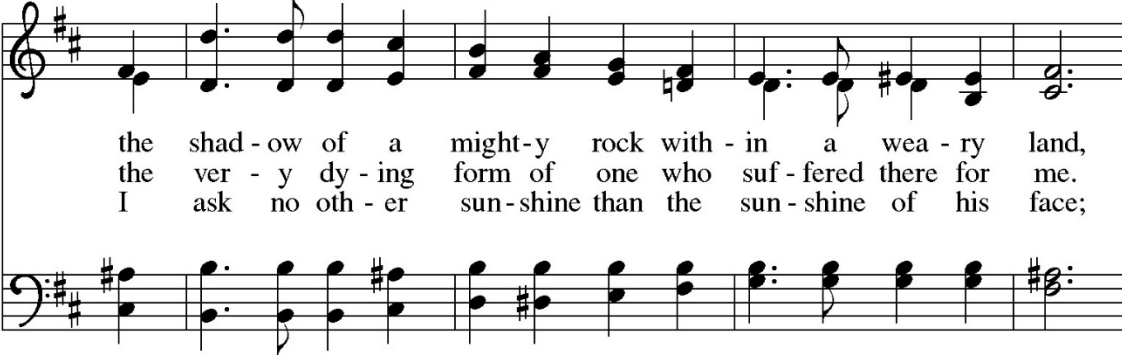
SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* **#338**

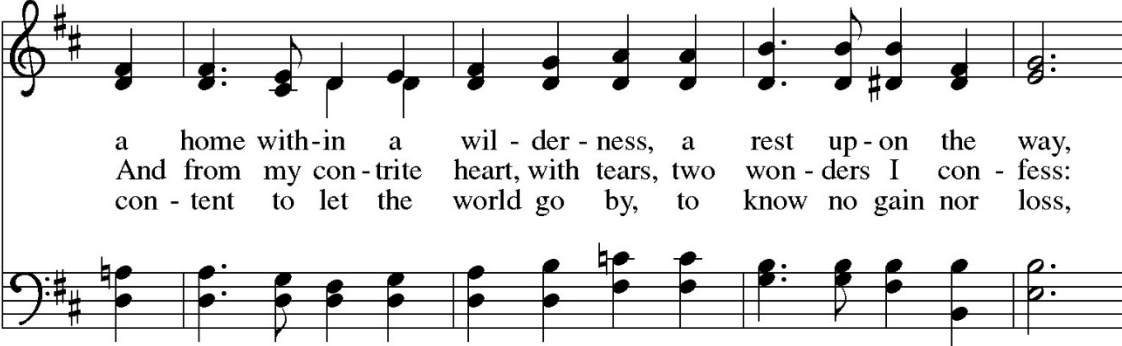
Beneath the Cross of Jesus



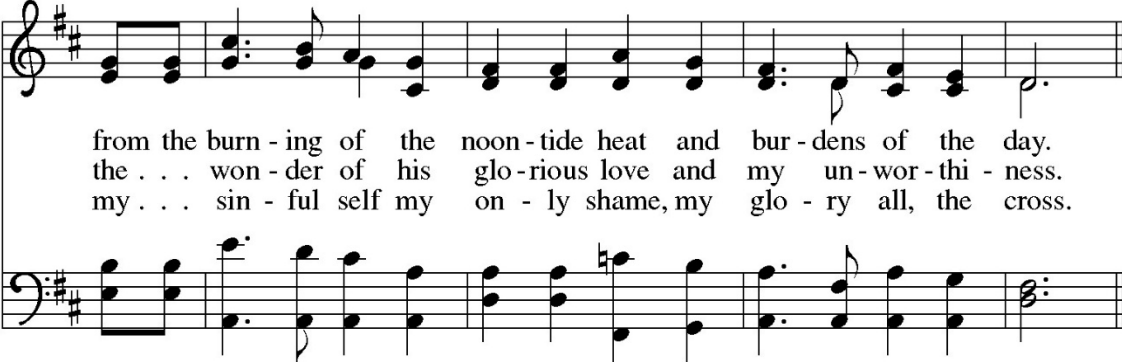
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

***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** *assisting minister*

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Sustaining God, guide your church on the way. Give us patience in our journey, and protect us from division and doubt. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, grant discernment and wisdom to those in authority. Uphold those who work for peace. May they seek the way of the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving (*especially*). Come to the aid of those who are hungry or needing shelter. May they find hope in the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, guide your flock. Protect us from the world's lies and lead us in the way of truth. Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others. May we follow you to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Merciful God, you receive into your loving embrace those who have died. Giving thanks for them, may we find comfort in the cross and live in the hope of resurrection. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Pastor

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

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

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**



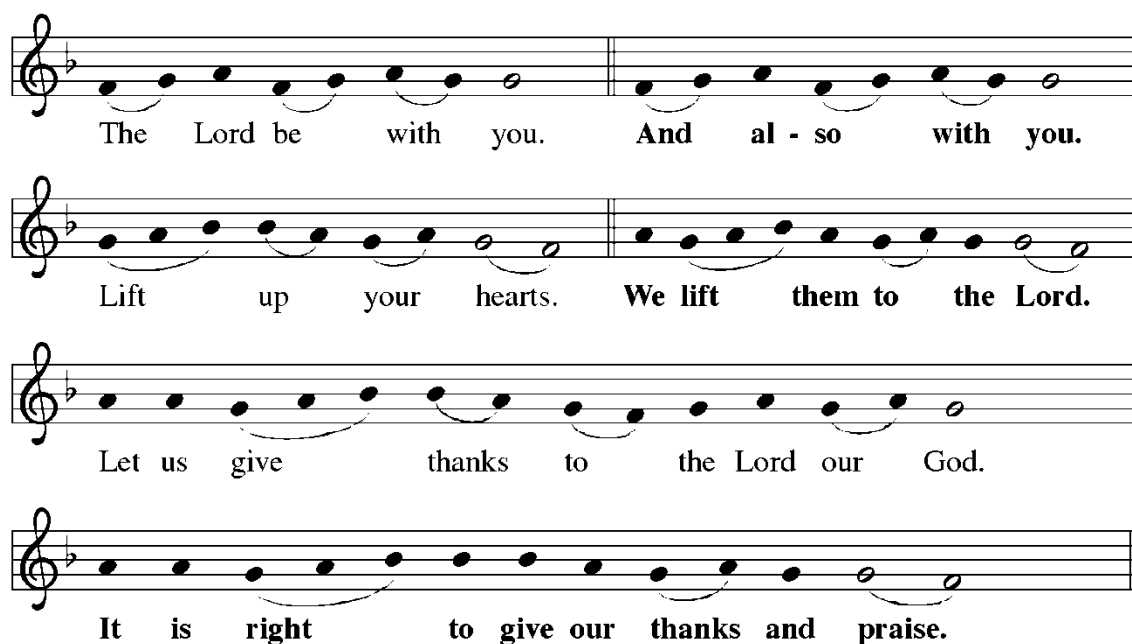
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER** *assisting minister*

Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are in need, though Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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..

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a whole note, the second with a half note, the third with a half note, and the fourth with a whole note and a double bar line.

***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

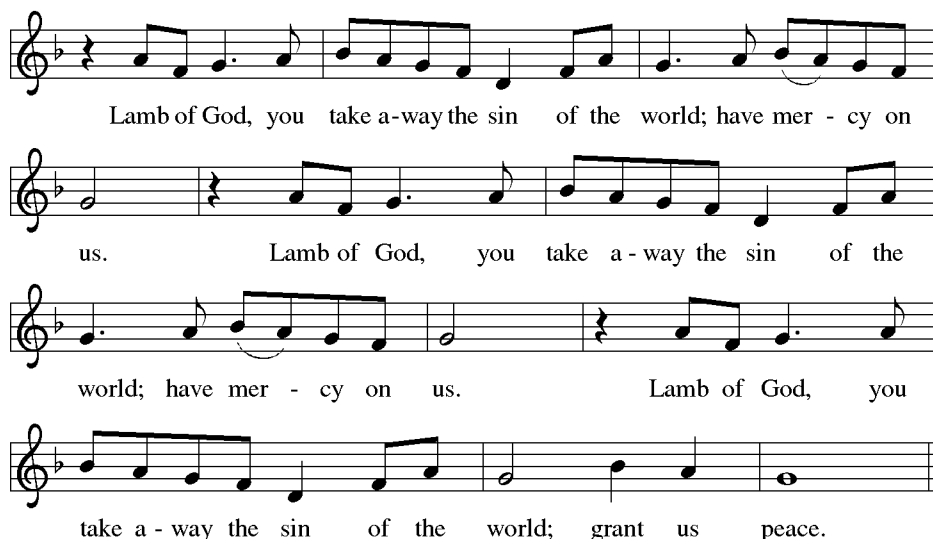
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

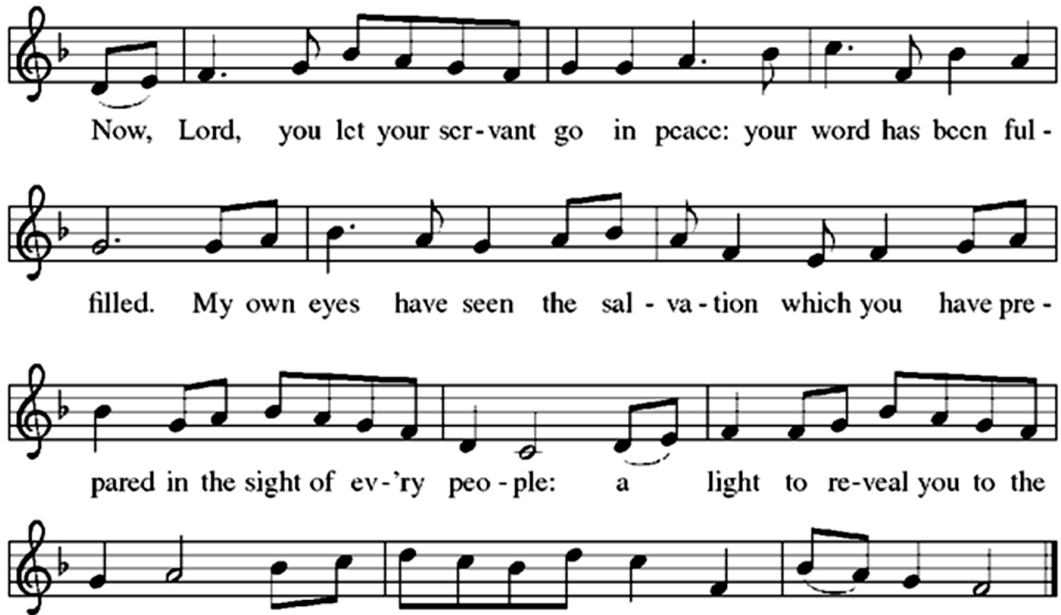
Communion

Hymn During Communion: ***When I Survey The Wondrous Cross #803***

*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.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION **Pastor**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG ***Lift High the Cross #660***

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

***DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

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