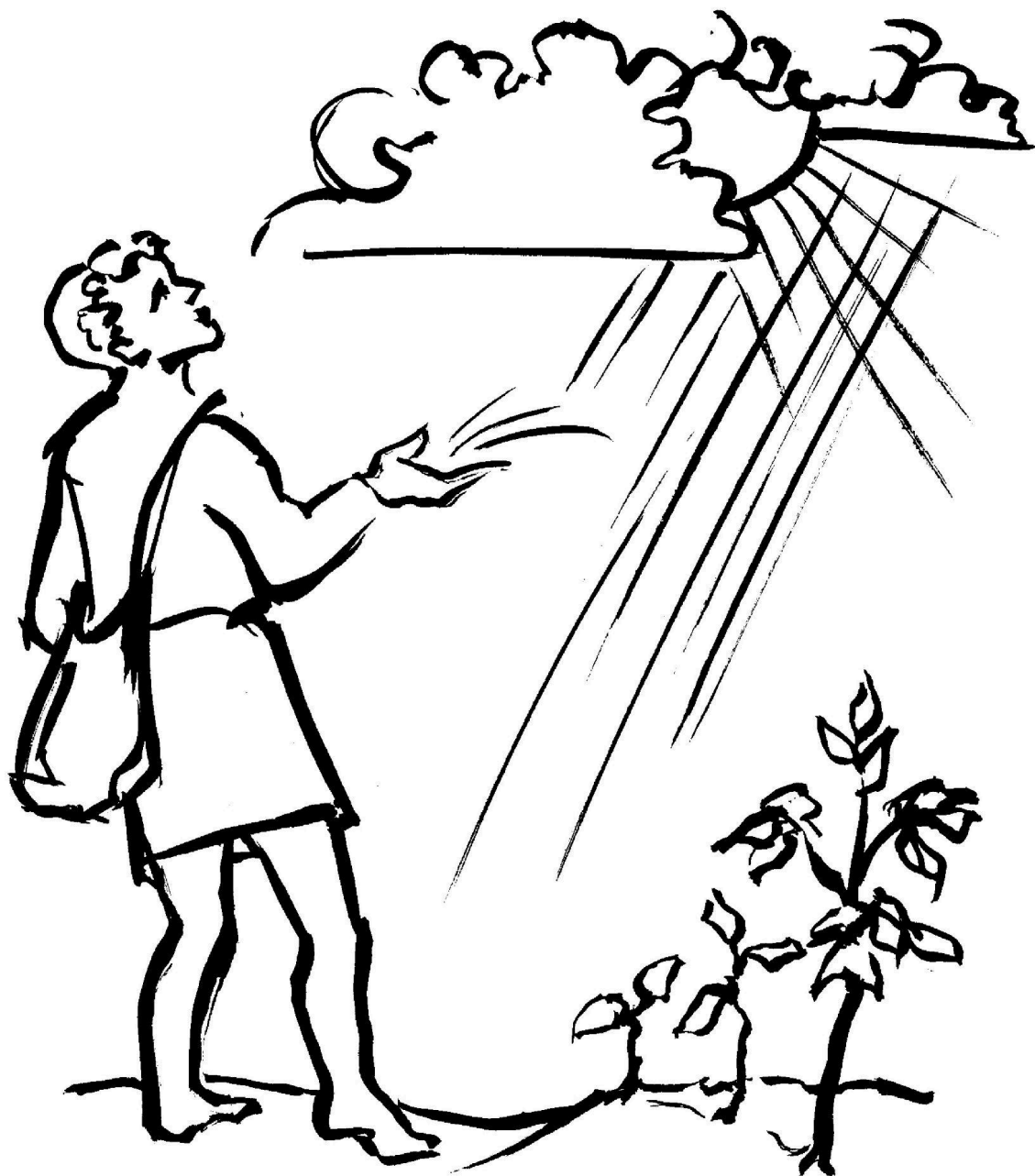


# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2026



United in Christ  
Lutheran Church

MORRISONVILLE, WI

*Sharing the Hope of Jesus in a Troubled World*

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar have been given by Norm and Bev Harris in celebration of our country's 250th Birthday.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Rev. Yehiel Curry**, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

**Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe**, Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA

The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**

For the **people of United in Christ Lutheran Church**

**Joanne Quam** - continued rehabilitation at home

**Geno Lainberger** - at Madison Health & Rehab Center

**Donna Colby** - at the Legacy in DeForest

**Kathy Olsen** - sister-in-law of Ann Olsen - continued health concerns

**Trey Tollefson** - grand nephew of Chet Gabris - at U.W. Hospital

**Chandra Diring** - health concerns

**Darryl Horton** - health concerns

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HAPPY BIRTHDAYS - Dennis Stephenson on Wednesday the 15th.
- LUNCH BUNCH - Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday the 15th at BB Jack's at 11:30am.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Call to Worship written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What Is Good*. Used with permission.

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## Welcome to Worship!

*God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.*

## GATHERING

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### INVOCATION

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

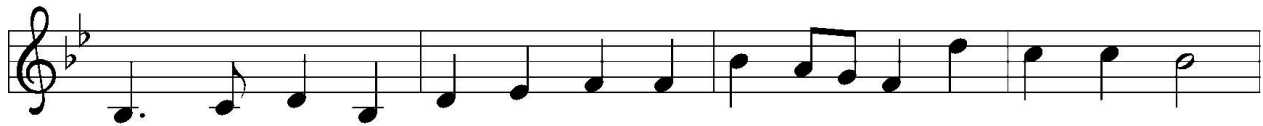
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

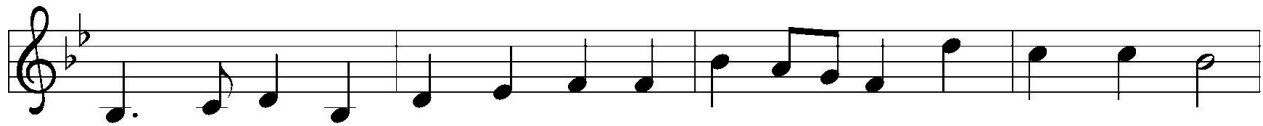
Rest in God's love.

C: **Amen.**

## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.  
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

### GREETING

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

KYRIE – Now the Feast & Celebration

Leader

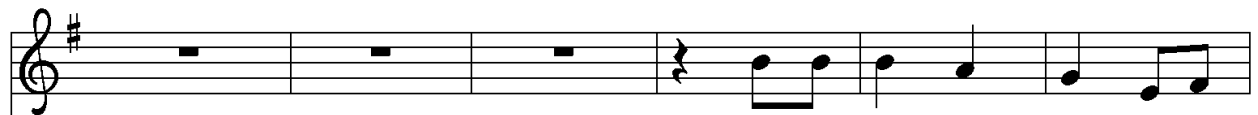


In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.


Assembly




**Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have**





For the reign of God, and for




**mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.**



peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the



Lord. For your



**Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.**

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: Friends, let us worship God today, for God is great –  
 C: **God has blessed us with life, with faith, and with community.**
- P: Let us worship God today, for God is good –  
 C: **God forgives us, and encourages us, and loves us.**
- P: Let us worship God today –  
 C: **Because we are God's people.**
- P: Let us worship God.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

*Refrain*



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



*Refrain*  
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



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



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



*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

*God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.*

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup> For you shall go out in joy  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,  
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

*(Please read the bold text responsively)*

[ <sup>1</sup> You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;  
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

<sup>2</sup> **To you, the one who answers prayer,  
to you all flesh shall come.**

<sup>3</sup> Our sins are stronger than we are,  
but you blot out our transgressions.

- <sup>4</sup> Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!  
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**
- <sup>5</sup> Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.
- <sup>6</sup> You make firm the mountains by your power;  
you are girded about with might.**
- <sup>7</sup> You still the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- <sup>8</sup> Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;  
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.]**
- <sup>9</sup> You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full  
of water.  
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
- <sup>10</sup> You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**
- <sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- <sup>12</sup> May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,  
and the hills be clothed with joy.**
- <sup>13</sup> May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with  
grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

## SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>If you have ears, hear!"

<sup>18</sup>"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be seated.)*

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 681

We Plow the Fields and Scatter



1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.  
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,  
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.  
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;  
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.  
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

*Refrain*



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.  
Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

## APOSTLES CREED

P: Together with the whole body of Christ gathered around the world,  
let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed:

**C: 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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation....

P: God of grace,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

P: ...Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C: And also with you.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

# MEAL

OFFERTORY – ACS 962

## In This Feast of Love



*Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä,* *täs - sä*  
1 In this feast of love, in this  
2 In this bread and wine, in this  
3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



*pöy - däs - sä* *syn - ti - sil - le*  
feast of love, Lord, you share your  
bread and wine, you have prom - ised,  
peace, O Lord; fill us with the



*it - se - si an - nat,* *Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!*  
blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.  
Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.  
joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio

Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

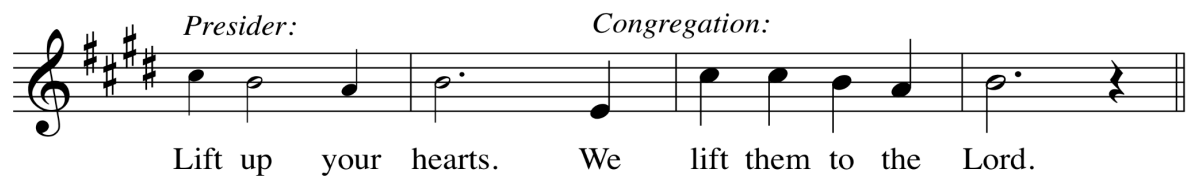
GREAT THANKSGIVING (May be spoken or sung.)

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



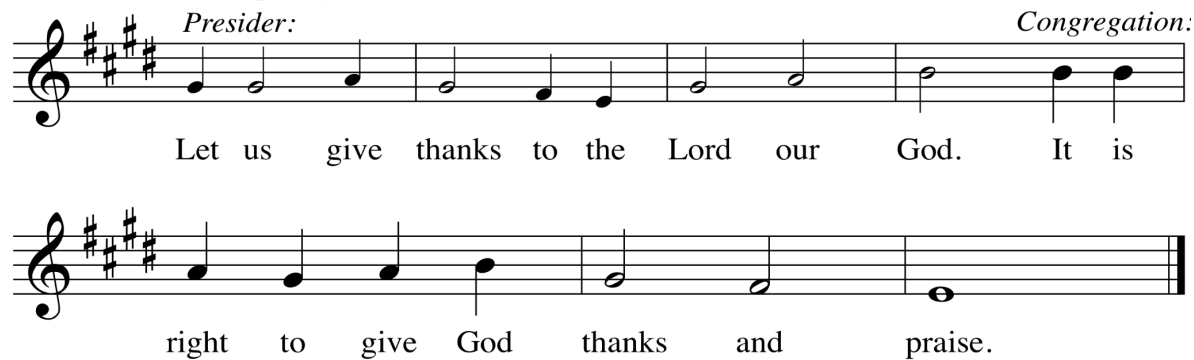
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



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

*Presider:* *Congregation:*

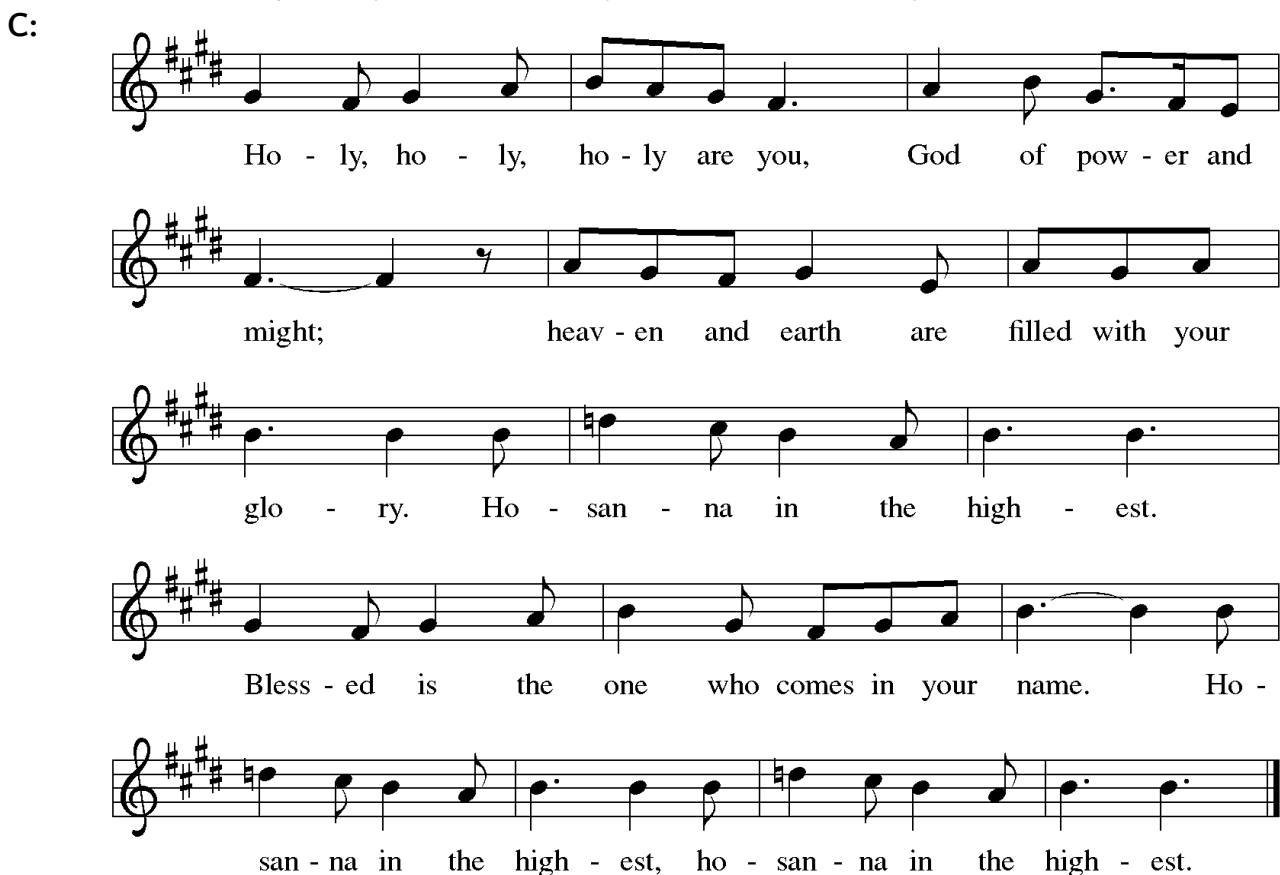


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is  
right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...  
...be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. The Presiding Pastor will provide verbal instructions for communion. If you are unable to come forward, we will bring communion to you. Gluten free bread is available. Children or those who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.*

## COMMUNION HYMN – *ELW 518 – We Eat the Bread of Teaching*

*(Hymn is played while congregation takes communion)*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

C: **Amen.**

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✠ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

C: **Amen.**

## For the Fruit of All Creation



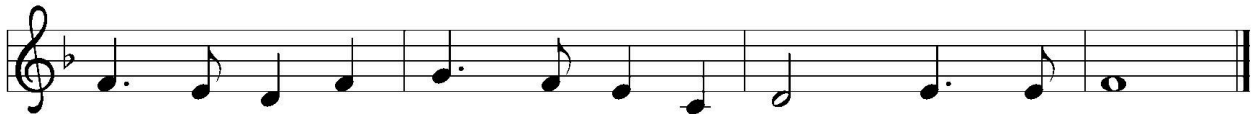
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**



## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister - Rev. Bruce Engebretson

Music - Nora or Ava Holliday - Pre-recorded by Ivy McLaughlin

Reader - Rona Anderson

Communion Assistant - Karen Millard

Ushers - Chet Gabris and Darryl Horton

Altar Guild - Bev Harris

Head Usher - Dale Molnar

## OFFERING

Any offerings (financial gifts) may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship space anytime before or after the service. Your contributions to the congregation help us make a difference in our community by enabling us to share the Gospel and serve in areas of need. You may also make a donation online on our website or by scanning the QR code on the right.



## United in Christ Lutheran Church

(608) 846-5902

[www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org](http://www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org)

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*A congregation of the*



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

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**Regular Office Hours:** By Appointment  
**Weekly Worship:** Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.