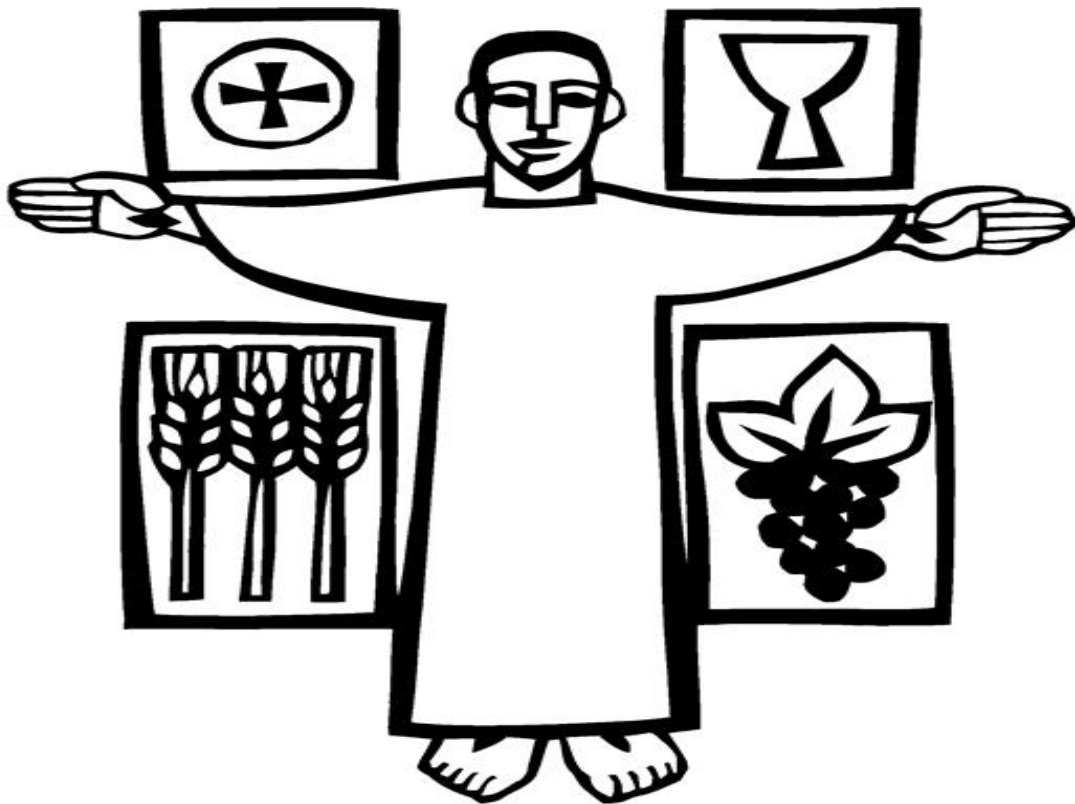


CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,  
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 18, 2024  
10:30 A.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
901 EAST STROOP ROAD  
KETTERING, OH 45429-4688  
(937) 298-0136

# THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## *Introduction*

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

## *You Are What You Eat*

"You are what you eat." This phrase is frequently used in American culture to encourage young children to eat nutritious food and, yes, is often met with exasperated sighs on the part of such children. Despite the phrase having become cliché, a surprising amount of scientific truth accompanies it.

When we consume food, it travels through the esophagus and into the stomach and small intestine, where it combines with fluids and breaks down into nutrients. These usable nutrients pass into our bloodstream and to the rest of our body. Thus, the process of eating and drinking literally turns your food into part of your body. So truly, "You are what you eat."

This week's gospel continues Jesus' long teaching that he is the true bread from heaven: "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty," we heard last week (John 6:35). Today he gets more graphic: "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life"—no wonder those gathered around him get upset! The Gospel of John doesn't include the institution of the Lord's supper; indeed, in John, Jesus himself is the Passover lamb, slain at the cross. But here, thirteen chapters earlier, Jesus declares that accepting the invitation to come to and believe in him—to "eat [his] flesh and drink [his] blood"—means life. When we take into ourselves Jesus' words, his healing touch, the power of his love, they become part of us. They nourish our spirits so we can live in wholeness, health, and salvation (words that are all connected in the ancient languages of scripture).

It is not surprising, then, that holy communion, the sharing of literal food and drink, became a profound means by which the church receives—and becomes—the body of Christ. In a mysterious way we can't fully understand, we truly are what we eat, and no other meal is more life-giving.

---

\*\* Indicates to stand as you are able.

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Pr. Jamie Vannoy*

## \*\* CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

\*\* GATHERING SONG

*I Know That My Redeemer Lives! (ELW 619, verses 1-4)*

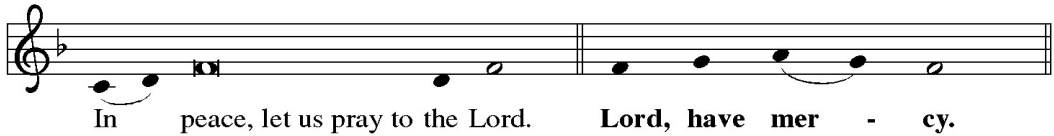
1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

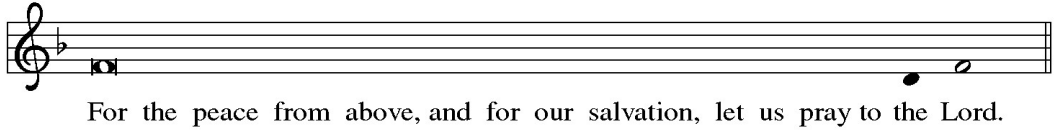
once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

\*\* GREETING

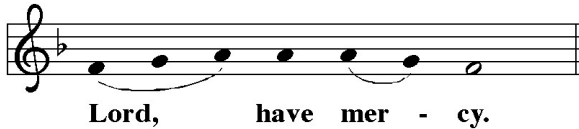
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**



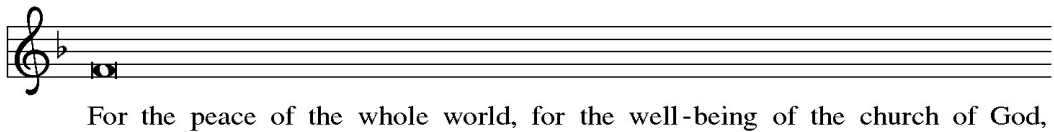
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



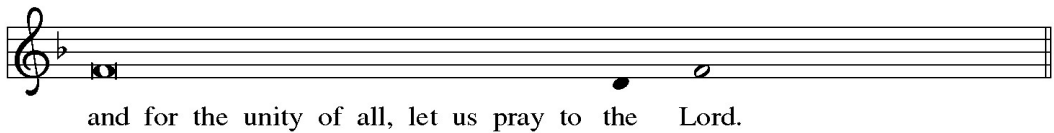
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



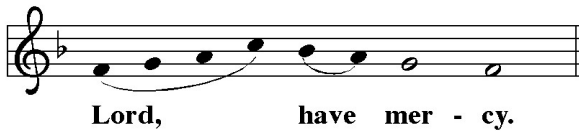
Lord, have mer - cy.



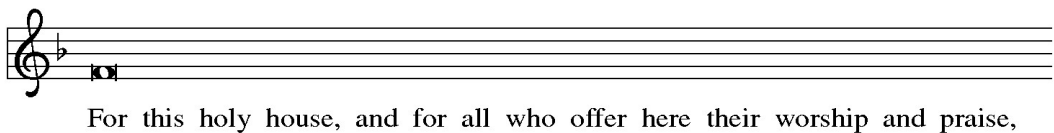
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



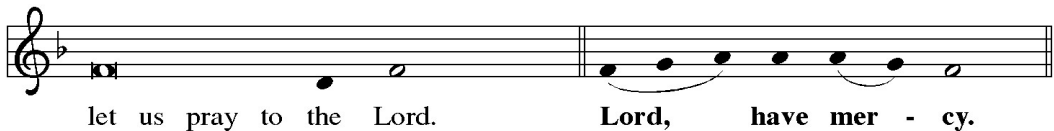
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



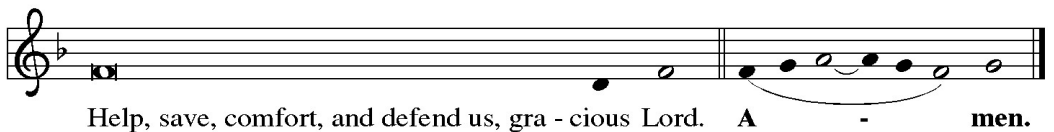
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

\*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*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,

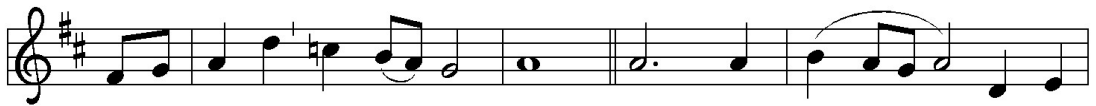


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

**\*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

# WORD

*Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.*

## FIRST READING

**Proverbs 9:1-6**

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

**Psalm 34:9-14**

*Those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)*

Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,  
for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,  
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

Come, children, and listen to me;  
I will teach you reverence for the Lord.

**Who among you takes pleasure in life  
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from lying words.

**Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.**



**SECOND READING**

**Ephesians 5:15-20**

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

A reading from the book of Ephesians.

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **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**

**John 6:51-58**

*In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.*

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

**YOUTH MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE**

*Pr. Jamie Vannoy*

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

I believe in the Son;  
I believe in the Risen One.  
I believe I overcome  
By the power of his blood.

(Refrain - Music Ministers)

Amen, amen,  
I'm alive, I'm alive because he lives.  
Amen, amen,  
Let my song join the one that never ends,  
Because he lives.

(Verse 2 - Music Ministers)

I was dead in the grave;  
I was covered in sin and shame.  
I heard mercy call my name.  
He rolled the stone away.

**(Refrain - All)**

**Amen, amen,  
I'm alive, I'm alive because he lives.  
Amen, amen,  
Let my song join the one that never ends.**

(Bridge - Music Ministers)

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
Because he lives, every fear is gone.  
I know he holds my life,  
My future in his hand.

**(Refrain - All)**

**Amen, amen,  
I'm alive, I'm alive because he lives.  
Amen, amen,  
Let my song join the one that never ends.**

**Amen, amen,**

**I'm alive, I'm alive because he lives.  
Amen, amen,  
Let my song join the one that never ends,  
Because he lives, because he lives.**

**\*\* NICENE CREED**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 INTERCESSION**

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church,  
the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Each intercession concludes:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

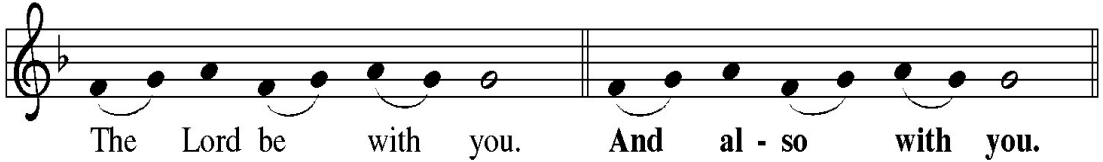
We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

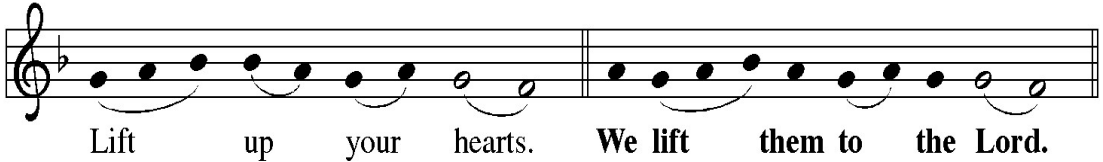
# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

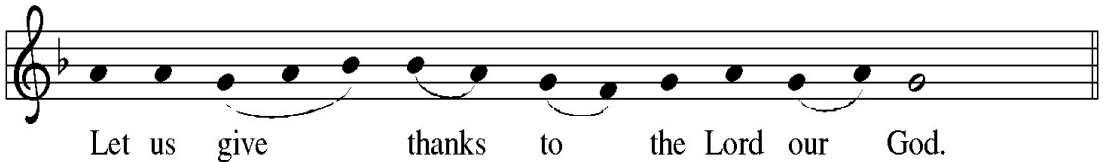
## \*\* DIALOGUE



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



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

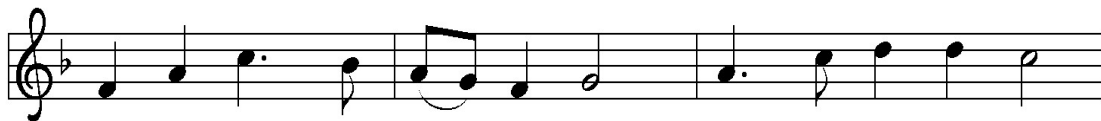


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

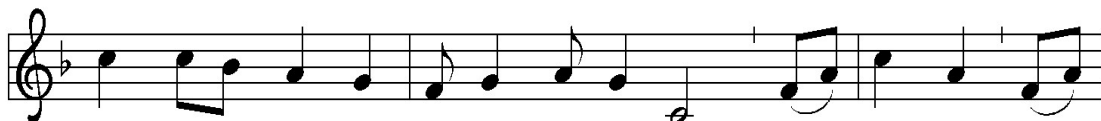


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

## \*\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

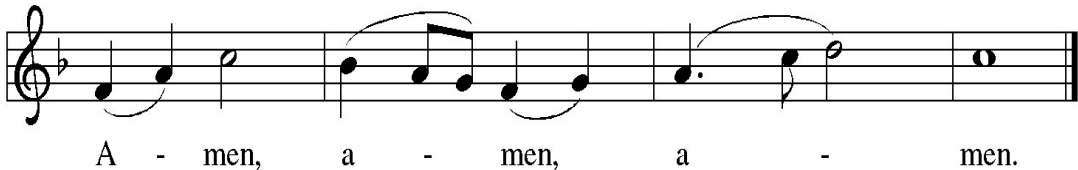


Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



## \*\* LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

\*\* LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.





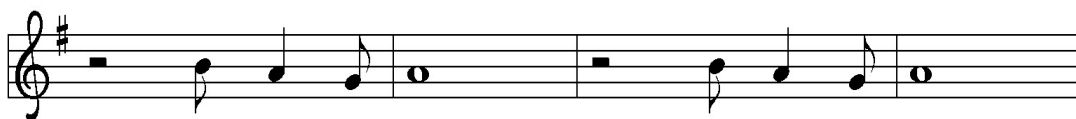
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



- |   |            |             |              |            |
|---|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1 | Gen - tile | or Jew,     | ser - vant   | or free,   |
| 2 | Man - y    | the gifts,  | man - y      | the works, |
| 3 | Grain for  | the fields, | scat - tered | and grown, |



wom - an	or man,	no	more.
one in	the Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to one	for	all.

**\*\* TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace.  
**Amen.**

**SONG AFTER COMMUNION: The Canticle of Simeon**



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**

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## \*\* BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Better Than Life*

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers / **All**)

Your love is everlasting,  
It's an everlasting love;  
Your mercy is as new  
As ev'ry rising of the sun,  
And your lovingkindness,  
**Lovingkindness is better than life.**  
Your grace is all sufficient,  
It's an all sufficient grace;  
Your power and your glory  
Are forever on display,  
And your lovingkindness,  
**Lovingkindness is better than life.**

(Refrain - **All**)

**Oh, it's better;**  
**Oh, better than life;**  
**Oh, so much better;**  
**Jesus, your lovingkindness**  
**Is better than life.**

(Verse 2 -Music Ministers / **All**)

Fairest of ten thousand,  
Of ten thousand, you are fair,  
And nothing in this world  
Could ever measure or compare  
To your lovingkindness,  
**Lovingkindness is better than life.**  
All your ways are just, O Lord,  
You're just in all your ways,  
And I will lift my hands, O Lord,  
With gratitude and praise  
For your lovingkindness,  
**Lovingkindness is better than life.**

(Refrain - All)  
Oh, it's better,  
Oh, better than life.  
Oh, so much better.  
**Jesus, your lovingkindness  
Is better than life.**

*Interlude*

(Bridge - Music Ministers / All)  
Jesus, your lovingkindness  
Is better than life itself,  
Better than life itself.  
**Jesus, your lovingkindness  
Is better than life itself,  
Is better than life.**

(Refrain - All)  
Oh, it's better,  
Oh, better than life.  
Oh, so much better.  
**Jesus, your lovingkindness  
Is better than life.**

**\*\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Created, Saved & Gifted by God, we Seek, Serve & Share Jesus Christ.**

**Hallelujah, Thanks Be To God.**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**“W + 2” = Worship Plus Two**

**Make a commitment to not only worship each week  
but also try to find a way to serve in the congregation  
and seek out a way to serve our community.**

**YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD**

## Upcoming Commemorations

### **Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153**

**Tuesday, August 20, 2024**

Bernard, a Cistercian monk, was a man of great spirituality who wrote mystical works and criticized those whom he thought took an overly intellectual approach to the faith. He became an abbot, and wrote several hymns that are still beloved today.

### **Bartholomew, Apostle**

**Saturday, August 24, 2024**

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

**NOTES:**

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