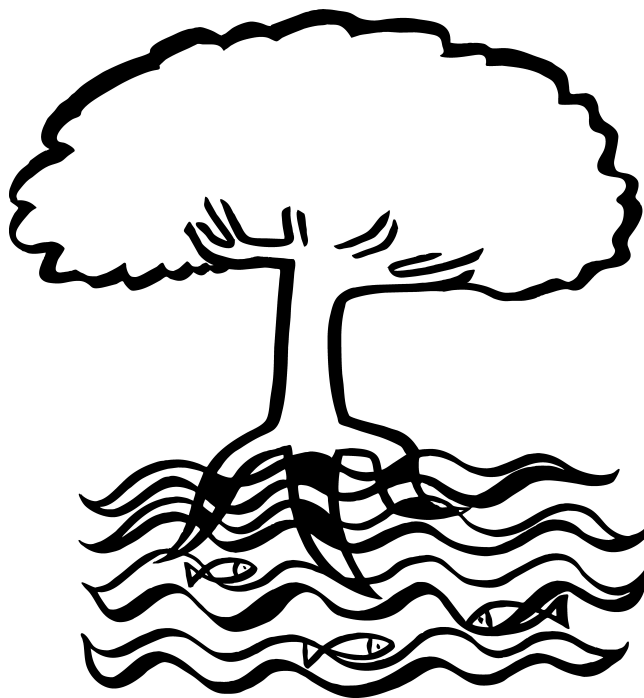


CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,  
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
OCTOBER 5, 2025  
10:30 AM

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

# INTRODUCTION

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

## The Righteous Live by Faith

Faith is the theme for today's readings, but not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to Habakkuk's oracle, the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b). But just what does it mean to be righteous? It's a righteousness imparted by God, who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters, bringing us into this family by our baptisms and by the faith God gives us makes us holy children. Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In 2 Timothy, the author writes a history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother and then passed on to his mother and himself. This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God: we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness and then passed this gift on to their children. But again, it's all God's doing! Finally, Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). They knew that faith was something needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders. What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be God's work and yet it's done with our hands? On this Sunday, help the assembly experience this faith that God has given us. It's a gift and connection to our God.

---

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

# GATHERING

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

## PRELUDE

"How Great Thou Art" (ELW 856)

*From the survey of favorite hymns.*

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er  
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me

all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;  
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;  
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;  
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou

art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to

thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Judy Treadway*

### \*\* CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,  
**we are your stiff-necked people.**  
**We trample on the needy.**  
**We grumble about your grace to others.**  
**We turn away from the poor.**  
**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**  
**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost**  
**and have been found.**  
**Amen.**

### \*\* FORGIVENESS

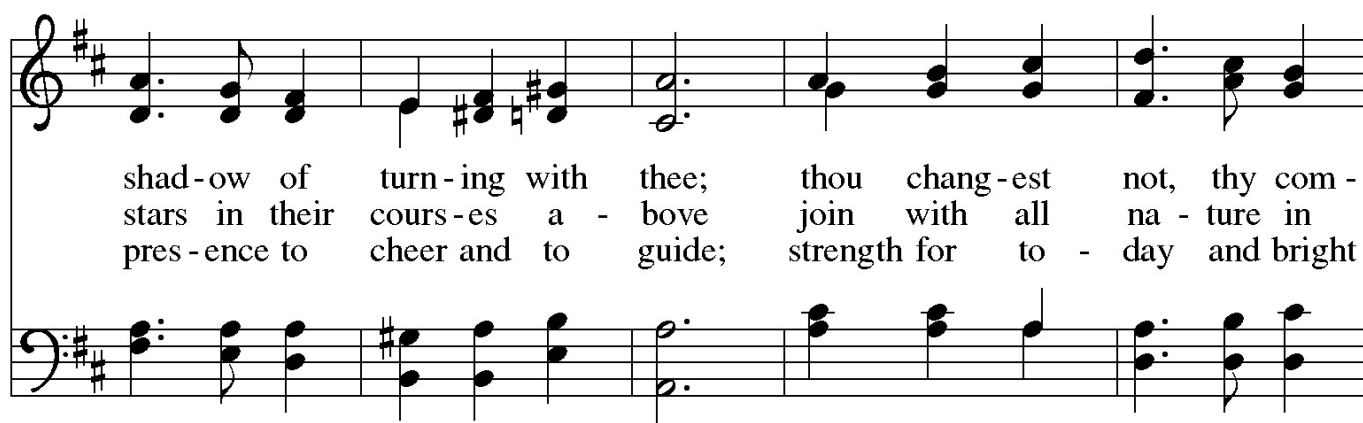
Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.  
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.  
You who were lost have been found.  
In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!  
**Amen.**

\*\* GATHERING HYMN

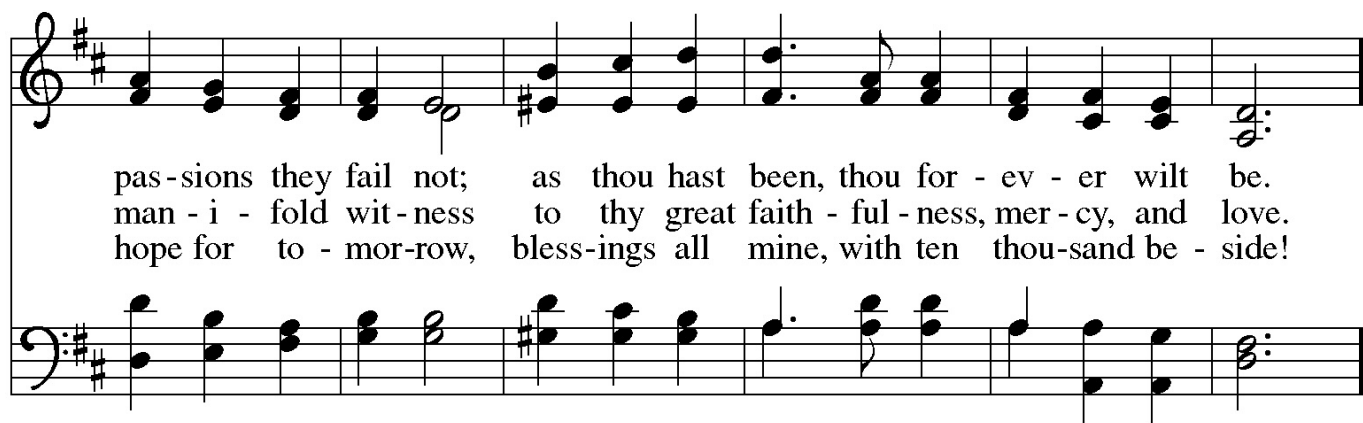
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

**\*\* GREETING**

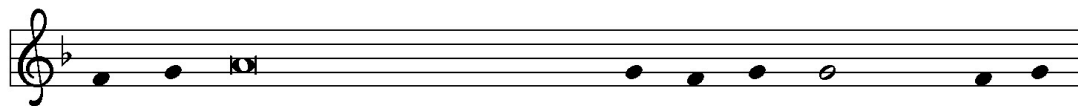
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*\* KYRIE**

*Assisting Minister*



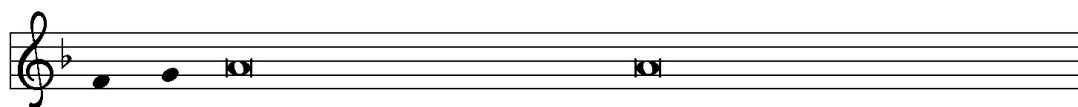
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.



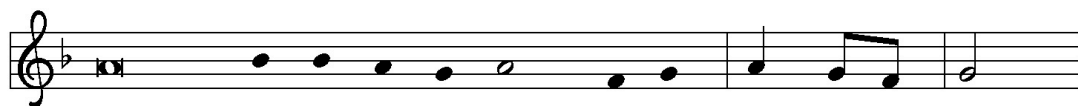
For the peace from above, and for our sal-va-tion, let us



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



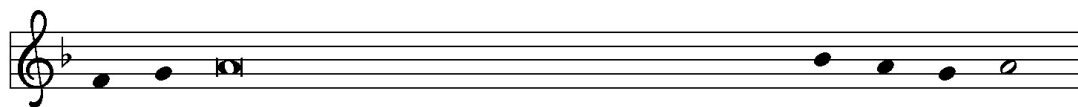
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



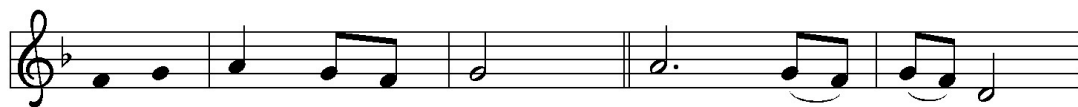
and for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.



## \*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



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

*Assisting Minister*

Benevolent, merciful God: **When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**\*\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

## FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?  
Or cry to you "Violence!"  
and you will not save?  
Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.  
So the law becomes slack,  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked surround the righteous;  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.  
Then the Lord answered me and said:  
Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.  
For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end and does not lie.  
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come; it will not delay.  
Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 37:1-9

*Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord. (Ps. 37:5)*

Do not be provoked by evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**For they shall soon wither like the grass,  
and like the green grass fade away.**

Put your trust in the Lord and do good;  
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**Take delight in the Lord,  
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,  
and see what God will do.

**The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light  
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

For evildoers shall be cut off  
but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

## SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit..*

A reading from 1 Timothy.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

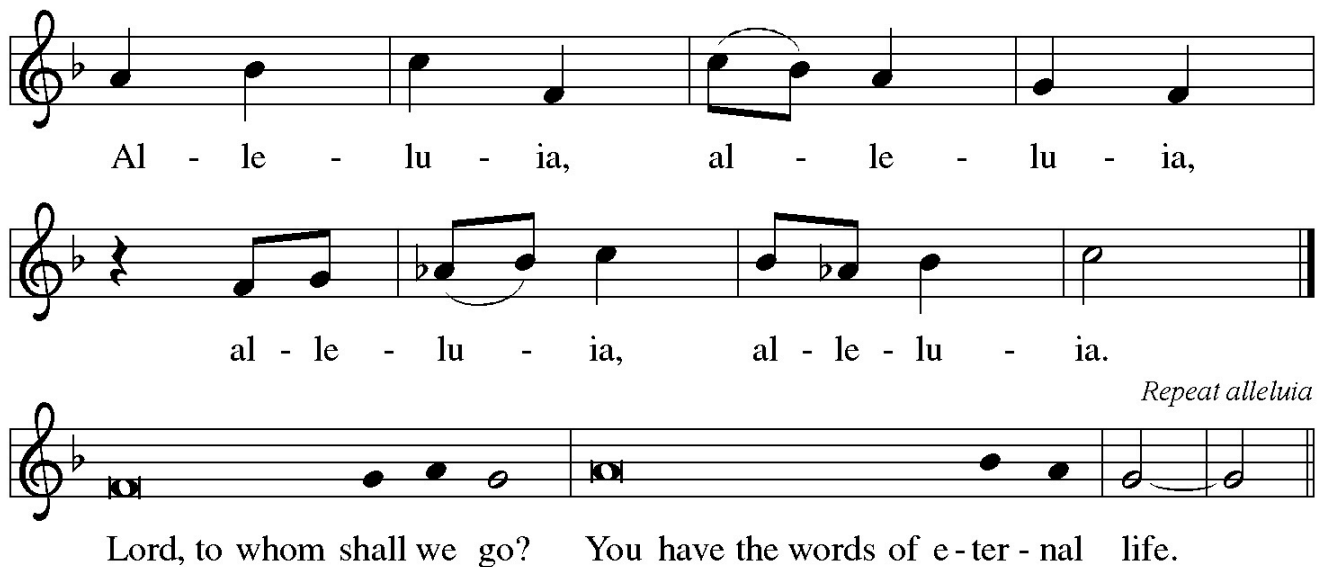
I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God**

**\*\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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

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

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**\*\* GOSPEL READING**

Luke 17:5-10

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**YOUTH MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE**

*Pastor John Mittermaier*

**\*\* HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"Cornerstone"**

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

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' name.

**My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' name.**

(Refrain - **All**)

**Christ alone. Cornerstone.  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.**

(Verse 2 - **All**)

**When darkness seems to hide his face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.**

(Refrain - **All**)

**Christ alone. Cornerstone.  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.  
He is Lord, Lord of all.**

**Christ alone. Cornerstone.  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.**

(Verse 3 - **All**)

**When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh may I then in him be found,  
Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
Faultless stand before the throne.**

**\*\* APOSTLES' CREED**

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 power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.

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*

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

*A brief silence.*

*Each petition concludes:*

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**GATHERING OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*Assisting Minister*

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 suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



# MEAL

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

## **\*\* DIALOGUE**

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

## **\*\* THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples 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."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

## **\*\* 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**

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

***For those communing at home or in the pew:***

**COMMUNION** — *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

*Each person may respond:* **Amen.**

**Communion Statement** ~ If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

#### **REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION**

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

# COMMUNION HYMN

## "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

**VERSE**

♩ = 54

D Em D/F# G D/F# D/A A

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be - yond all meas - ure that  
 (2. Be) hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on His shoul - ders. A -  
 (3. I) will not boast in an - y - thing: No gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom. But

3 D Em D/F# G D/F# A D

He should give His on - ly Son to make a wretch His treas - ure. How  
 shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call out a - mong the scof - fers. It  
 I will boast in Je - sus Christ: His death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

5 Em D/F# G D/F# Bm A

great the pain of sear - ing loss. The Fa - ther turns His face a - way as  
 was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac - com - plished; His  
 should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer. But

How Deep The Father's Love For Us - 2

**TURNAROUND**

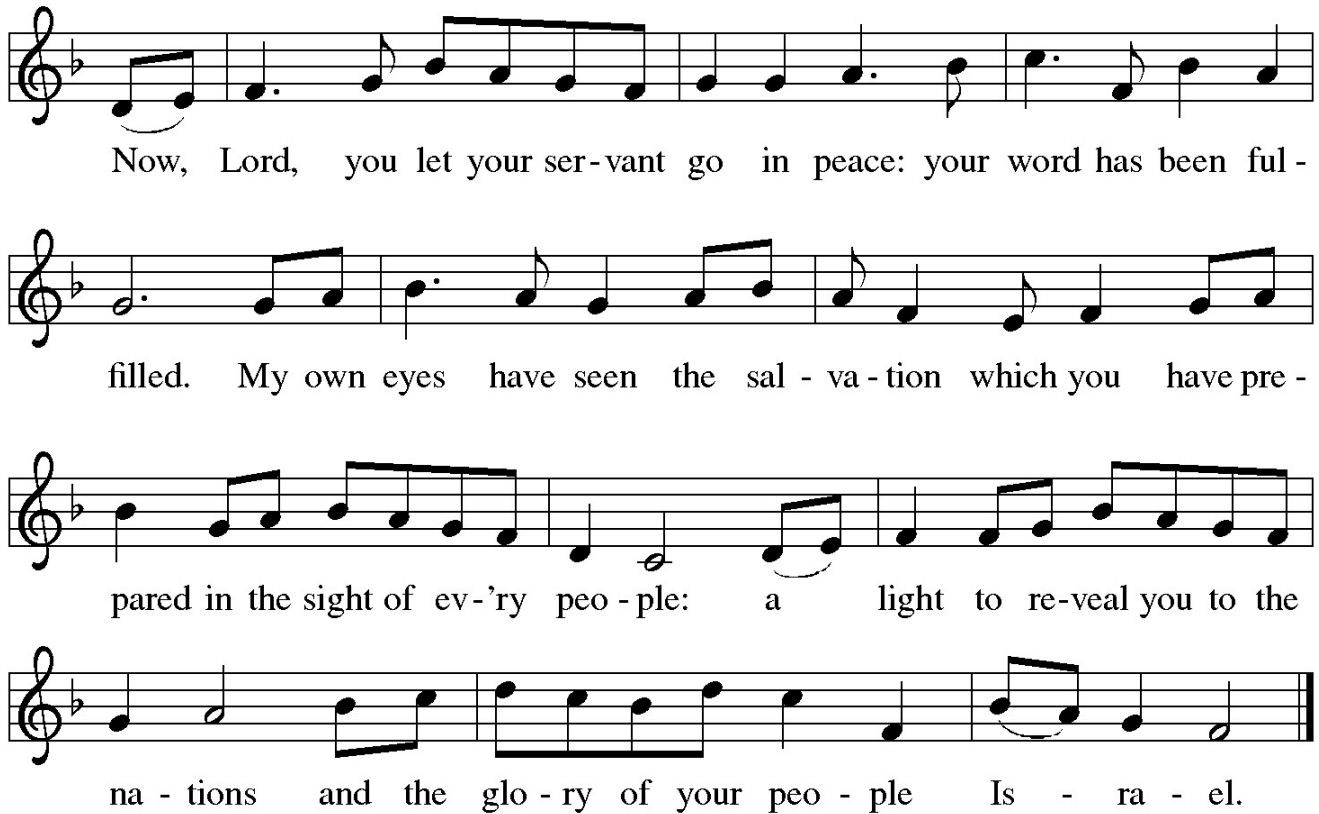
7 D Em D/F# G D/F# A D *Fine*

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.  
 dy - ing breath has brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.  
 this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

**\*\* TABLE BLESSING**

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

**\*\* HYMN AFTER COMMUNION: "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**

*Assisting Minister*

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.**

**\*\* SENDING OF COMMUNION**

*Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.*

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

# SENDING

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

## \*\* BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## \*\* SENDING HYMN


"How Firm a Foundation" (ELW 796)



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."

**\*\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Created, saved and gifted by God,**

**we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

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**“W + 2” = WORSHIP PLUS TWO**

**MAKE A COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO 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**

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**UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

**William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536**

Monday, October 6, 2025

Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

**Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787**

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

**Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1986 (TFF)**

Friday, October 10, 2025

A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.