

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**  
**"People of Christ Making a Difference"**  
**119 N Church Street**  
**Lexington, SC**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 1, 2021**

**WELCOME TO OUR VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE!**

We are so glad that you are worshipping with us! Here are a few helpful things to know:

The church's office hours are Monday through Thursday 8am-4pm. Please don't hesitate to let us know how we can help! The pastors are available by calling the church (359-6562), calling the Crisis Care Line after hours (808-6471), or emailing them ([pat@sslc.org](mailto:pat@sslc.org) and/or [jasonantley@earthlink.net](mailto:jasonantley@earthlink.net))

If you visit our website ([www.sslc.org](http://www.sslc.org)) you will see additions to the main page. On your phone, please make sure you are on the full website (just scroll down and click the icon that says full website). As you scroll down the homepage you will see SIX BOXES. Here are the details:

Box 1) "**Weekly Bulletins**" – which will correspond to the services on YouTube.

Box 2) "**Virtual Communion**" – explanation and instructions for communing at home during virtual worship.

Box 3) "**Click Here For Our YouTube**" – where you can click to participate in our virtual worship services, or you can copy and paste [tinyurl.com/SSLCWorship](http://tinyurl.com/SSLCWorship) into your browser to take you there directly. Services will be livestreamed at 12:30 PM on Wednesdays and 8:30 AM on Sundays.

Box 4) "**Latest Church Update**" – where we will post the latest COVID-19 church update.

Box 5) "**Online Giving**" – Don't forget to support our ministry during this time apart by either mailing your donations to the church (119 N Church Street, Lexington, SC 29072), giving online, or giving through the Givelify app. This may also be a time to consider direct deposit giving. For more details please call the church office to contact our Parish Administrator, Mrs. Tonya Reynolds.

Box 6) "**Green Sheet Announcements**" – this is the green bulletin insert you would normally get on Sunday.

If you need any sort of assistance (ie needing food, getting groceries or prescriptions, going to medical appointments, anything at all), please call the church office or one of the pastors. We have folks who are willing to help in any way they can! Please take time to call folks who may not have a strong network and may be in need. Neighbors helping neighbors is one way we can be "People of Christ Making a Difference!"

Please don't forget to check us out on Facebook! God bless you! We love you! Hope to see you soon!

## GATHERING MUSIC

## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

## INVOCATION

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

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage 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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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**



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 by schisms . . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.



## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **RESPONSIVE LITURGY**

We welcome you, LORD, God of Life, in our midst.

**You are our provider.**

We praise the LORD,

**who provides HIS people with Manna from heaven.**

We praise the LORD

**who provided us with the Bread of Life.**

We praise the LORD

**who nourishes our faith even on this day through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

## **THE SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

### **FIRST READING**

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

<sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 78:23-29

- <sup>23</sup>So God commanded the clouds above  
and opened the doors of heaven,  
<sup>24</sup>**raining down manna upon them to eat  
and giving them grain from heaven.**  
<sup>25</sup>So mortals ate the bread of angels;  
God provided for them food enough.  
<sup>26</sup>**The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens  
and powerfully led out the south wind,**  
<sup>27</sup>raining down flesh upon them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand of the seas,  
<sup>28</sup>**letting them fall in the midst of the camp  
and round about the dwellings.**  
<sup>29</sup>So the people ate and were well filled,  
for God gave them what they craved.

## SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." <sup>9</sup>(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:24-35

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. <sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

Pastor Jason

**SERMON**

Pastor Dennis

*Refrain*



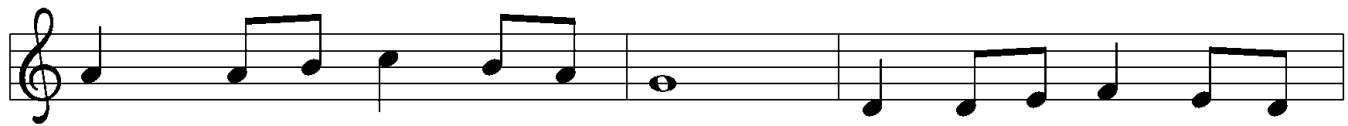
Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



- 1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
- 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
- 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
- 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
- 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food that en - dures.	Come, learn the true and the
self for the life of the world.	Come to the one who is
home in the life - giv - ing Word.	Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn;	trust his re - turn and, with

*Refrain*



sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full - ness of life may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one in whom you are re - born.

## THE APOSTLE'S 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 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 THE FAITHFUL

### OFFERING

At this time in the service we pause to reflect on all the gifts that God has given us and our calling to be generous stewards of those gifts for the sake of our ministry near and far in the name of Christ. Don't forget to support our ministry by putting your offering in the offering plate, mailing your offering to the church, giving online ([www.sslc.org](http://www.sslc.org)) or through the Givelify app. This may also be a time to consider direct deposit giving. For more details please contact our Parish Administrator, Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, at (803) 359-6562.

Anthem

*"I Am the Bread of Life"*

ELW 485

"I am the Bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger,  
and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons."

*Refrain:* "And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day."

"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,  
and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever." *Refrain*

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ,  
the Son of God, who have come into the world. *Refrain*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.**

**Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

## THE PREFACE

## THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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.'

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## AGNUS DEI



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, grant us peace.

## RECEPTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Christ welcomes you to this Holy Meal of the Baptized! This Holy Sacrament is a fundamental part of how we participate in worship and receive Christ's body and blood, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. It is customary to use bread and wine for this meal, however with the given circumstances we invite you to find whatever is most appropriate in your context for your family to share. As you gather together to receive the real presence of Christ found in, with, and under the elements, be assured that the gifts we are given by God in the Holy Sacrament transcend space and time. May we be fed and nourished by God through this meal so that we may persevere and continue in discipleship this and every day.

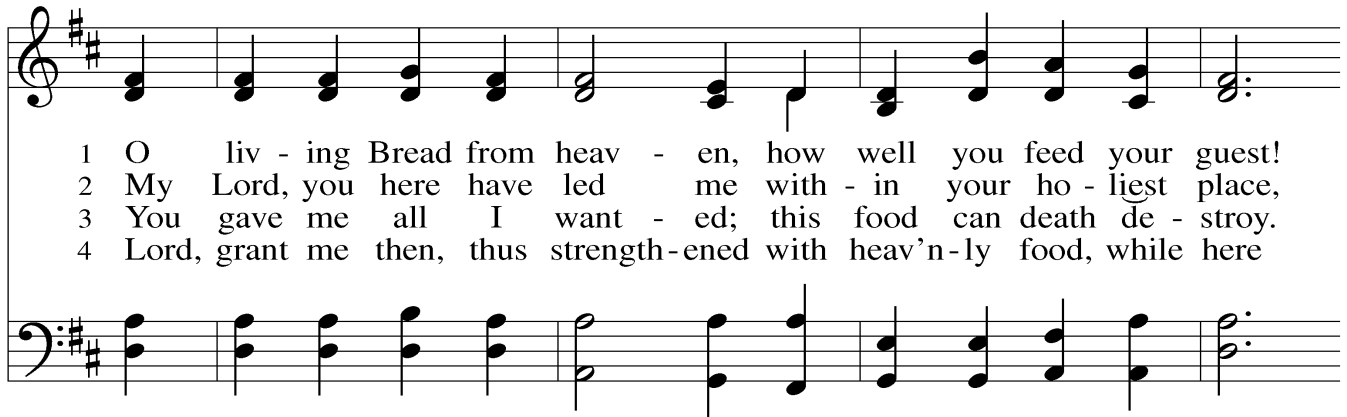
*(As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

*The body of Christ, given for you.*

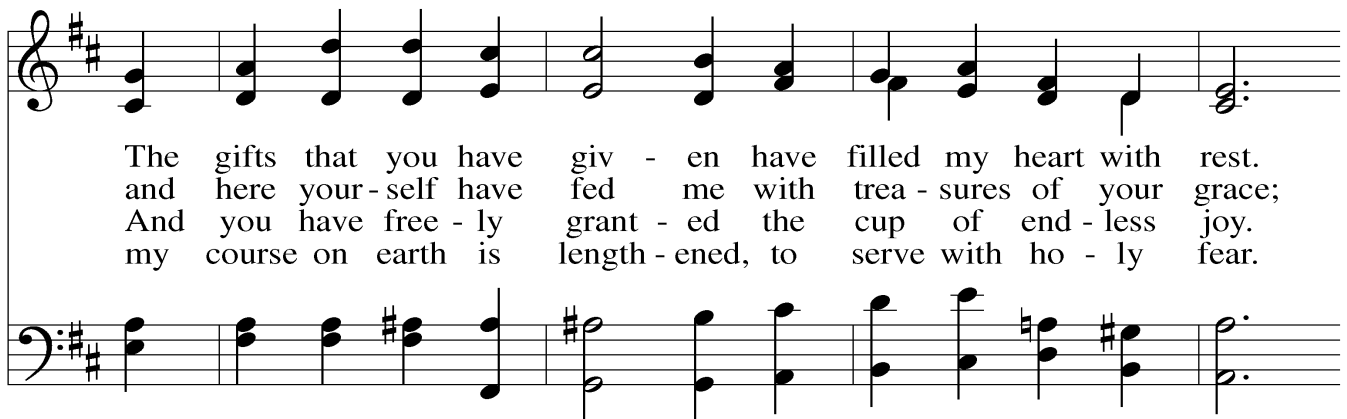
*The blood of Christ shed for you.*

*The communicant may say: "Amen.")*

*The Congregation is encouraged to participate in the following Communion Hymn.*



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!  
 2 My Lord, you here have led me with - in your ho - liest place,  
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.  
 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.  
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;  
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.  
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve with ho - ly fear.



Oh, won - drous food of bless - ing, oh, cup that heals our woes!  
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,  
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,  
 And when you call my spir - it to leave this world be - low,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, with prais - es o - ver - flows!  
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.  
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.  
 I en - ter, through your mer - it, where joys un - min - gled flow.

## BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

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

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

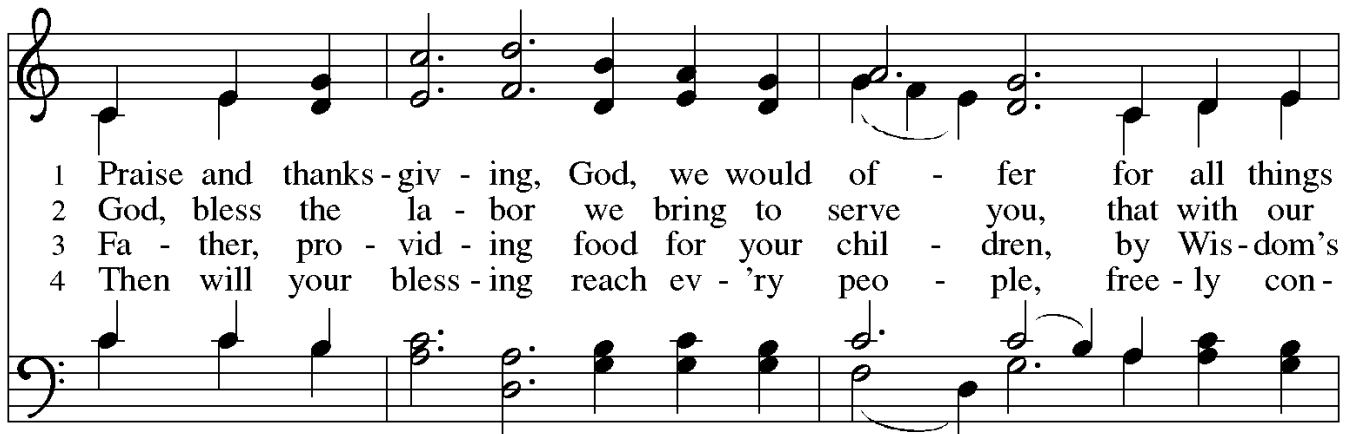
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**


## SENDING SONG

*"Praise and Thanksgiving"*

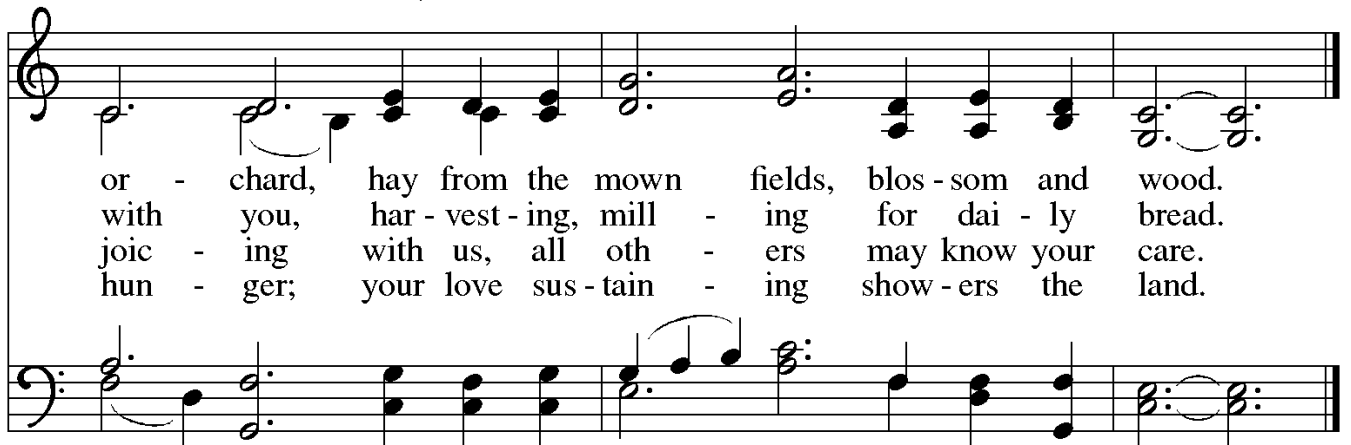
ELW 689



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Dot Hendrix Hundley and Betty Hendrix by Dottie and Bill Slocomb.

### **The Church Staff**

**Crisis Care Line: 808-6471**

**Website: [www.sslc.org](http://www.sslc.org)**

The Rev. Dr. Patrick W. Riddle

Mrs. Shannon Burnett, Director of Family Life

Mr. Tyler Meade Young, Organist

Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, Parish Administrator

Mr. Stephen Abbott, Seminarian

The Rev. Dr. Dennis Bolton, Pastor for Welcome and Visitation

The Rev. Jason T. Antley

Mrs. Bailey Slice Parker, Music Director

Mrs. Beth Haggard, Preschool Director

Mr. Eric Abramson, Sexton

Mrs. Sylvia Looney, Organist Emeritus