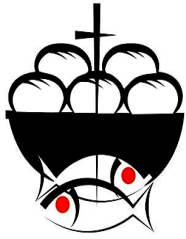


FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ordinary Time

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado
(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org
Pastor Garrett Struessel and Deacon Korra Looschen

16th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 28, 2025
9:30 a.m.

We welcome you to worship!
Please fill out the blue worship card and place it in the offering plate later in the service.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.



CONFESSION AND 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, 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.

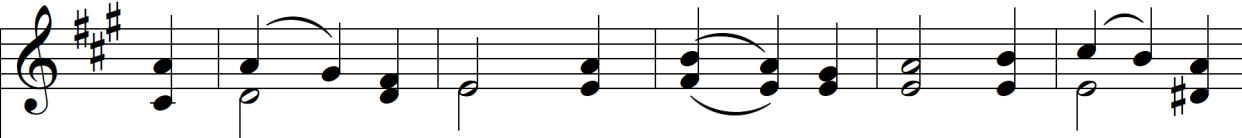
Amen.

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.

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

ELW 729



1. The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set__ by
 2. A - cross__ the world, a - cross__ the street, the vic - tims
 3. Then let__ the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4. For he__ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5. We have__ no mis - sion but__ to serve in full__ o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of__ in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in__ our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to__ our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep__ on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live__ be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed__ the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

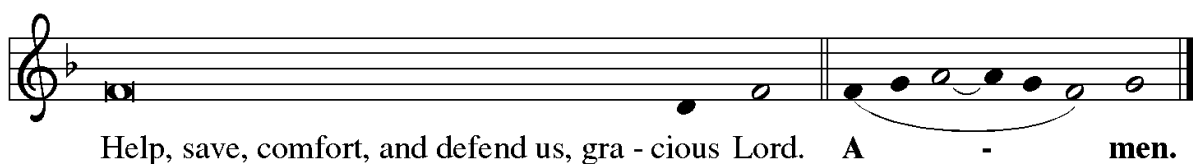
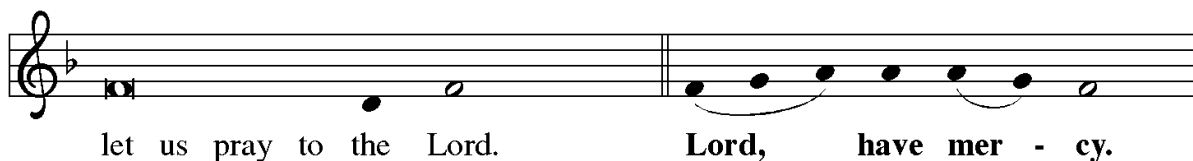
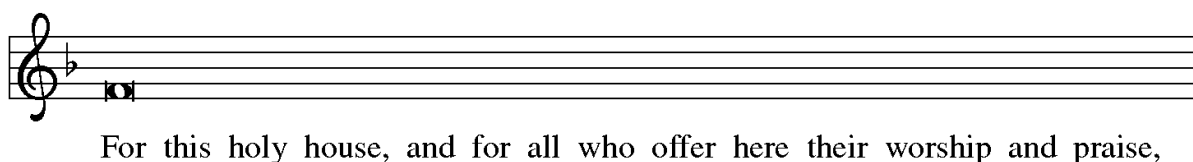
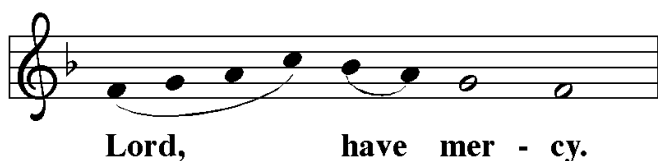
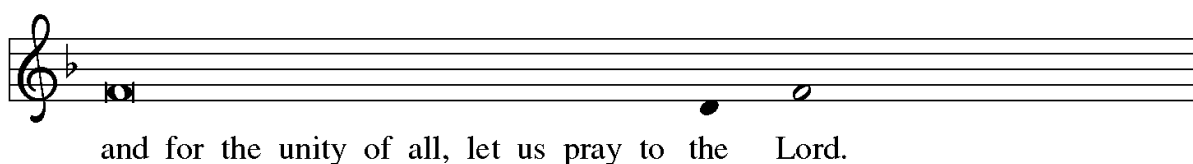
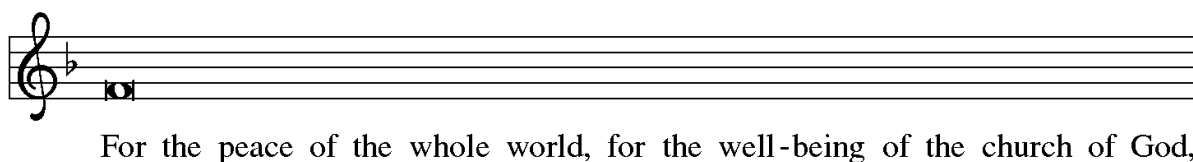
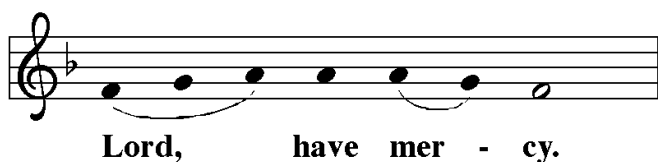
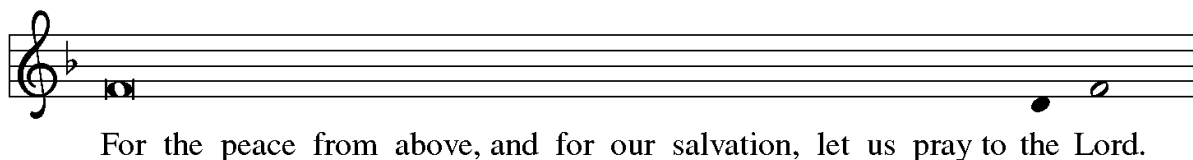
GREETING

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

Page 138



This Is the Feast

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

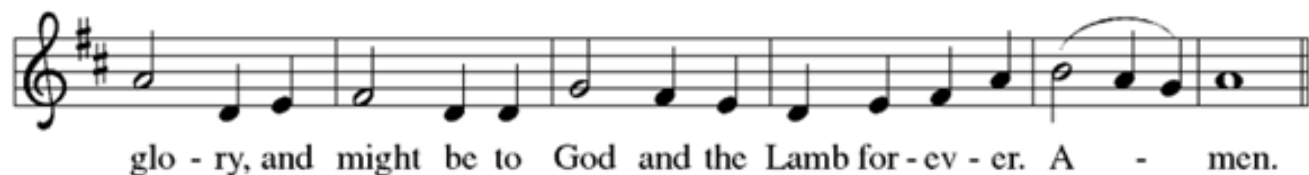
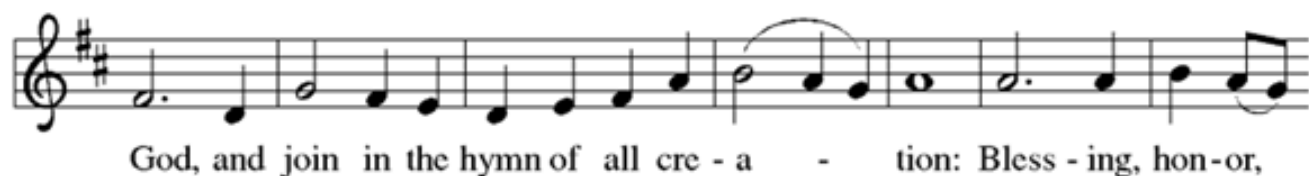


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

ANTHEM

"May You Be Lifted Up" by Allan Robert Petke

Chancel Choir

WORD

READINGS

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, ⁶ who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

1 Timothy 6:6-19

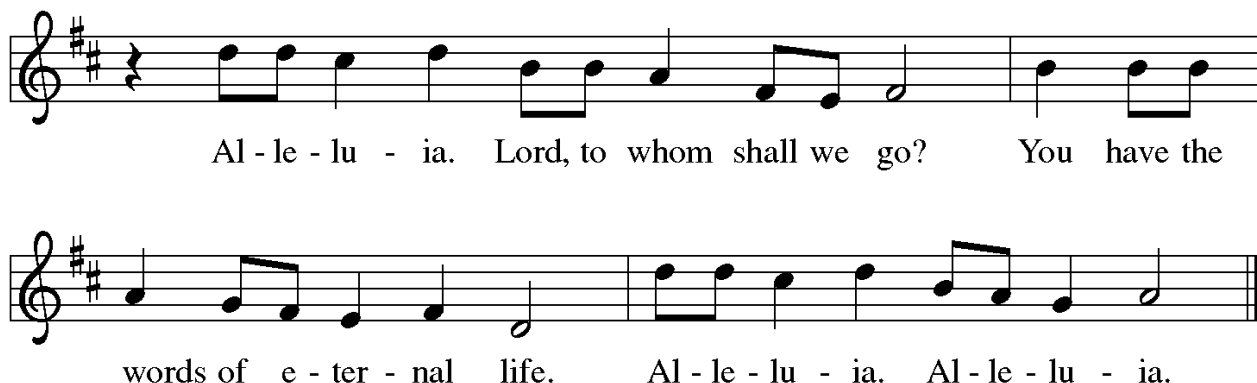
Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16th chapter beginning at the 19th verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Garrett Struessel

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 PEOPLE

God of Grace

Receive our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

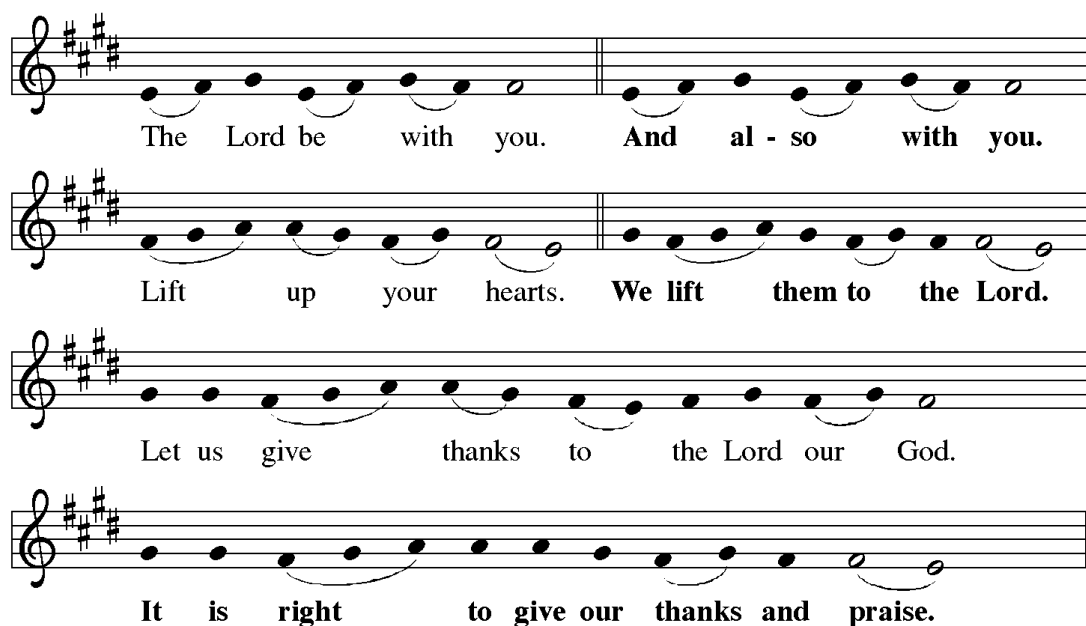
Lord of the harvest,

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 144



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

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

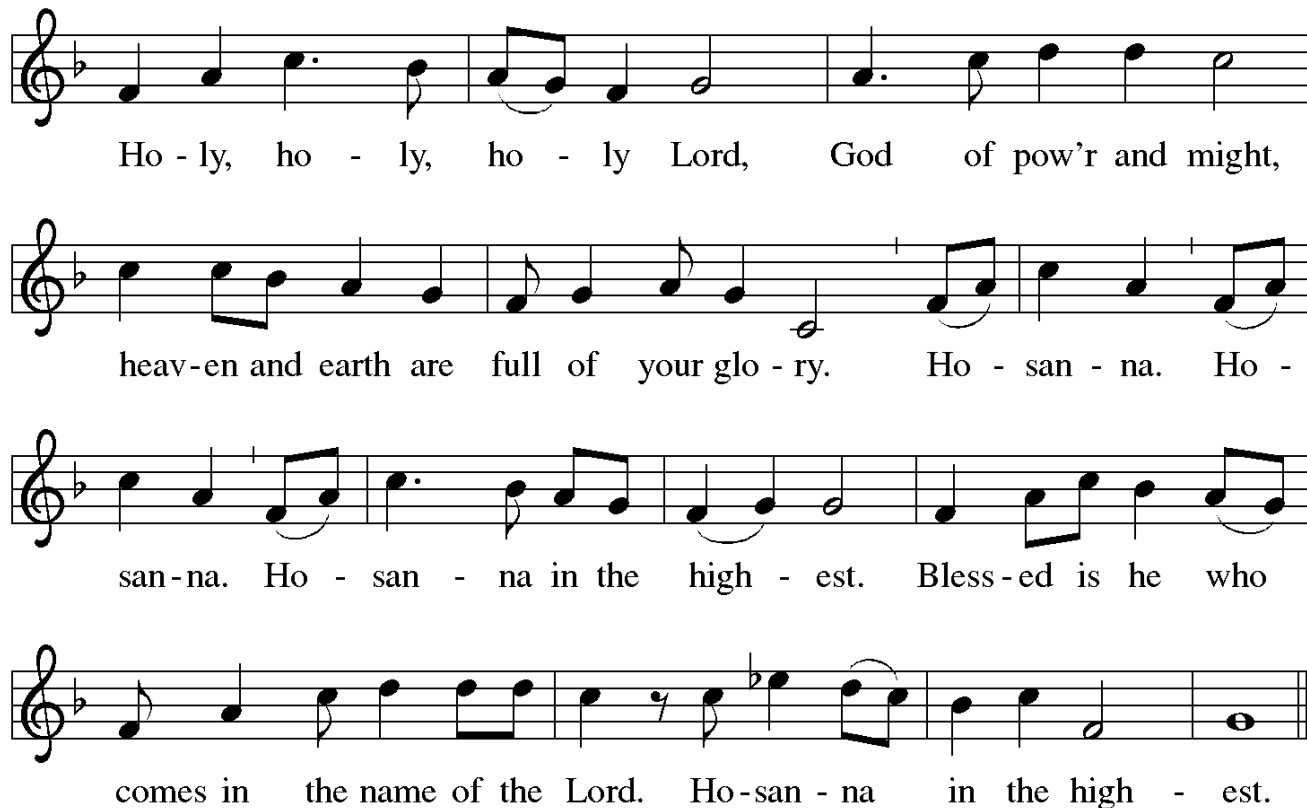
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 144



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

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

SHARING OF COMMUNION (for those of you at home)

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of forgiveness, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear these words and partake of the bread/cracker and wine/juice, giving it to each other, if possible:

"The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you."

COMMUNION

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward

for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore “all are welcome”. In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

Page 146

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

COMMUNION HYMNS

<i>“One Bread, One Body”</i>	ELW 496
<i>“Gather Us In”</i>	ELW 532
<i>“By Your Hand You Feed Your People”</i>	ELW 469

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

Refrain

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 or the gifts, man - y or 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 all. all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

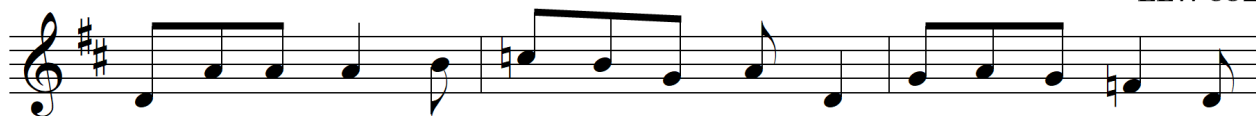
Music: John Foley, SJ

Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ, and OCP Publications

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
4 4 6 and refrain

Gather Us In

ELW 532



1. Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way—here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of the day. _____
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race. _____
 call us a-new to be salt of the earth. _____
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day. _____



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name. _____
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song. _____
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true. _____
 fire - of love in our flesh and our bone. _____

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

1. By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels heav-en's bread.
 2. In this meal we taste your sweet - ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
 3. Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be-reaved.

For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace we have been fed:
 Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
 In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

Christ's own bo - dy, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, live out - poured,

giv-en as a liv-ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
 Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Text and music © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.

CAMROSE
 8 7 8 7 D

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"Canticle of the Turning"

ELW 723 vs. 1,2,4

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

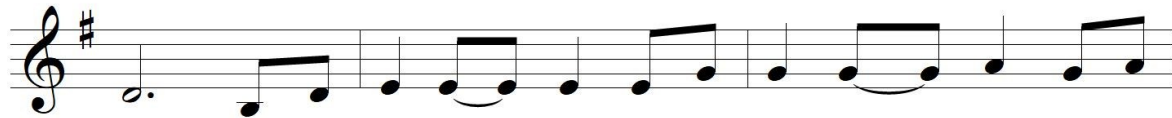
POSTLUDE

Canticle of the Turning

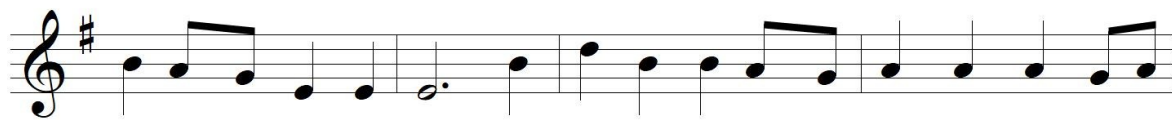
ELW 723



1. My _____ soul cried out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is
 2. Though _____ I am small, my _____ God, my all, you _____ work great _____ things in
 3. From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a stone will be left on
 4. Though the na - tions rage from _____ age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us



great, and my spir - it _____ sings of the won - drous _____ things that you
 me, and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the
 stone. Let the king be _____ ware for your jus - tice _____ tears ev - 'ry
 fast God's _____ mer - cy _____ must de - liv - er _____ us from the



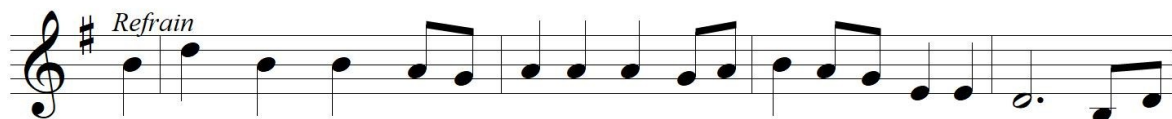
bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 end of the age to be. Your ve - ry name puts the proud to shame, and to
 ty - rant _____ from his throne. The hun - gry poor shall _____ weep no more, for the
 con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can ne - ver earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be _____ blest. Could the world be a - bout to _____ turn?
 strong to _____ flight, for the world is a - bout to _____ turn.
 mouth be _____ fed, for the world is a - bout to _____ turn.
 crushed by _____ God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a -



way all tears, for the dawn draws near and the world is a - bout to _____ turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1953, based on the Magnificat

STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

Music: Irish traditional

Irregular

Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

WELCOME to Worship!

WELCOME to worship! We are so glad you are here!

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

KIDS WORSHIP BAGS are available to use during the church service. Pick one up in the narthex so they can enjoy looking through a children's Bible, coloring in the coloring pages, or playing with one of the toys. Kids worship bags are labeled according to age ranges. Please return the bags after service. Thank you for bringing your kids to church

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street.

RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

We love seeing you in worship!

Scan the QR Code for the Following!

View the Latest Sunday Bulletin



Preacher/Presider

The Rev. Garrett Struessel

Council Hosts

Dorotha Ekx

Bill Campbell

Ushers

Herb Hergott

Vicki Hergott

Reader

Char Lemkee

Communion Assistants

Stephanie Geyer

Lewis Geyer, II

Mary Hall

Pianist/Organist

Gary Elmquist