

Order of Worship  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 28, 2025



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.** 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.

**\*=ALL STAND** for this part of worship

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*Give Me Jesus*

arr. Mark Hayes

### **\*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,  
the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy  
and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over  
the waters, and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea, you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word, you claim us as your own,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all, we praise you  
for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

**PRESENTATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

*Parents and godparents present the candidate:*

We present Liliana for baptism.

*The presiding minister addresses parents and godparents:*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Liliana baptized into Christ?

*Response:* We do.

As you bring Liliana to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the Word of God and the Holy Supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the Holy Scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Kevin and Jenna, do you promise to help Liliana grow in the Christian faith and life?

*Response:* We do.

*The presiding minister addresses godparents:*

Michaela and Manuel, do you promise to nurture Liliana in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

*Response:* We do.

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly:*

People of God, do you promise to support Liliana and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

**We do.**

*The assembly stands.*

### **\*Profession Of Faith**

*The presiding minister addresses the full assembly:*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

### ***\*Three Renunciation Questions***

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**We renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**We renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**We renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**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.**

**\*BAPTISM OF LILIANA ROSE GUZMAN MELO**

Liliana, I baptize you  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Blessed be God: **the source of all life,  
the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.**

*The presiding minister continues:*

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

*Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister pray:*  
Sustain Liliana with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

*The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:*

Liliana, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

## WELCOME

*A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized as assisting minister says:*

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me  
will have the light of life.

*Ministers and baptismal group face the assembly.*

*Assisting minister leads the assembly in the welcome.*

## TEMPLE TALK

**Dr. Terry Neal**

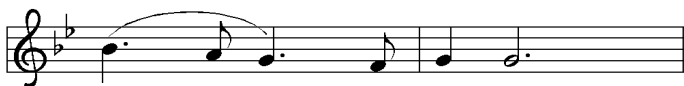
## \*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



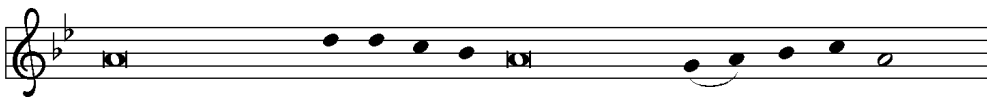
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



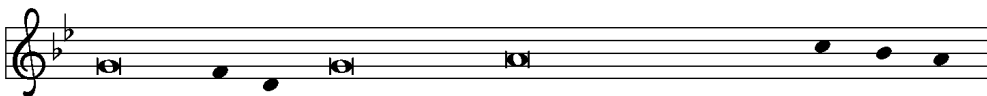
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



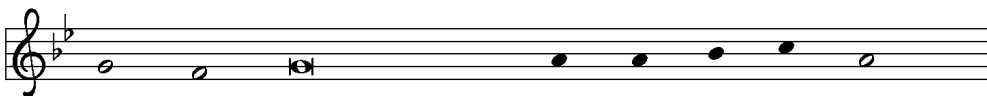
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

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

Let us pray together:

**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.**

## **FIRST READING:**

**Amos 6:1a, 4-7**

<sup>1a</sup> Woe to those who are at ease in Zion  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

<sup>4</sup> 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,

<sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp  
and like David improvise on instruments of music,

<sup>6</sup> who drink wine from bowls  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

<sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 146** *(We will read the Psalm responsively, by whole verse.)*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the Lord as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your trust in rulers,  
in mortals in whom there is no help.



- <sup>4</sup> When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.**
- <sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- <sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**
- <sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed,  
and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.
- <sup>8</sup> The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up  
those who are bowed  
down; the Lord loves the righteous.**
- <sup>9</sup> The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- <sup>10</sup> The Lord shall reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING:

## 1 Timothy 6:6-19

<sup>6</sup> Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, <sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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 <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> 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.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*We stand for the reading of the Gospel.*



**\*GOSPEL:**

**Luke 16:19-31**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> 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.’ <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> 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.’ <sup>27</sup> He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to

my father's house<sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.'<sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.'<sup>30</sup> He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'<sup>31</sup> 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**

**The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world,  
and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for people in any kind of need, including: *Mary, Mabel, Doris, June, Ann, Julie, Rita, Carol, Anne, Judy, Tom, Lydia, Brian, James & Grace, Wil, Amy, Bob & Jane, Barbara, Scott, Lynda, Ron & Flo, Mac, Monica, Tom & Leona, Avery, Doris, John, Tim, Arleen, Betty, Linda, Jeff, Henry, Gary, Greg, Helen & Ron, and Max & Michelle.* Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered, whether silently or aloud.*

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

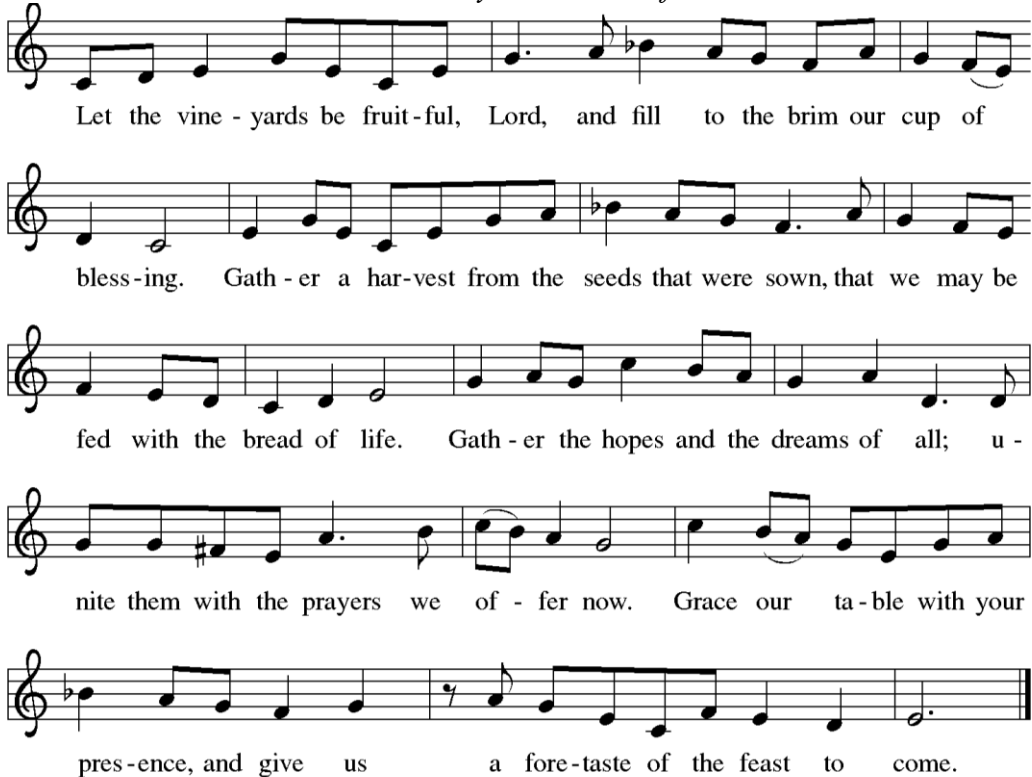
### OFFERTORY

*These Alone Are Enough*

Schutte

### \*OFFERING SONG

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

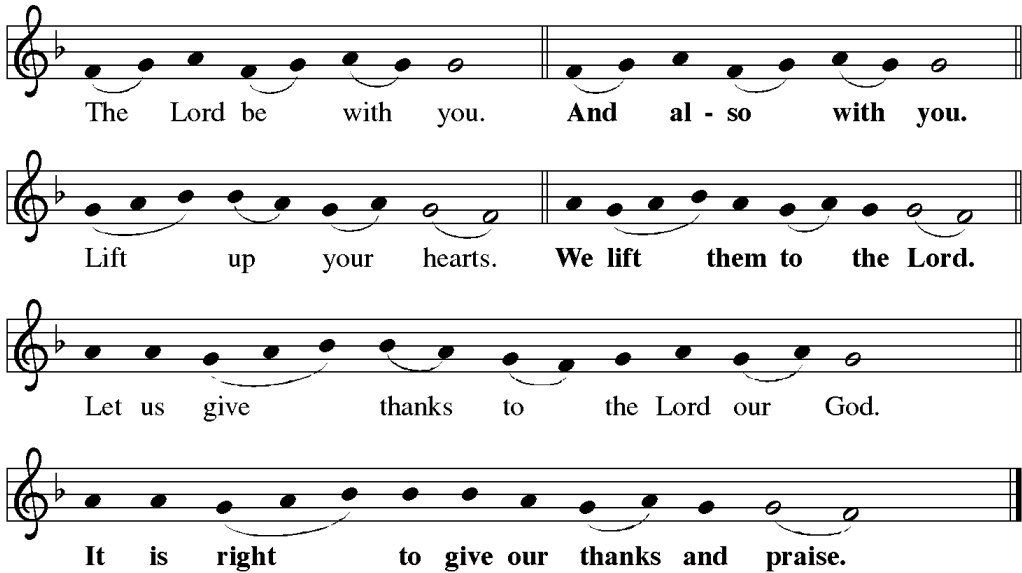


Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### \*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 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.

## \*PREFACE

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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was handed over,  
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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 the meal of mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **COMMUNION**

The baptized children of God are invited by the Lord to the Lord's Table where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We commune at the communion rail where we receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Gluten free bread and grape juice are available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and Pastor will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. You may wish to remain at the rail for a time of personal prayer following which you may return to your pew down the side aisle.

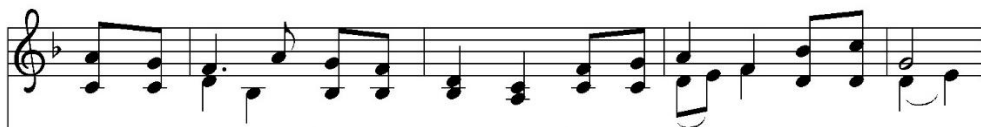
## LAMB OF GOD

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.


## COMMUNION HYMN(S)

*By Your Hand You Feed Your People  
Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken  
(next pages)*

ELW 469  
ACS 966




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 have we 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:




*Refrain*



Christ's own bod-y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er-flow-ing, life out - poured,

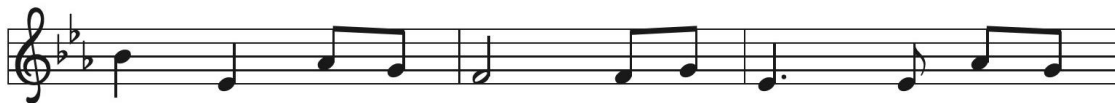



giv-en as a liv-ing to - ken of your world re-deemed, re - stored.





1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



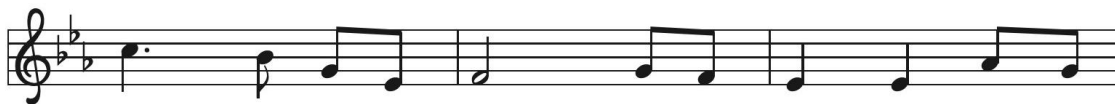
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

### \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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. With gratitude we pray.

Amen.

## \*SENDING HYMN

*Baptized and Set Free*

ELW 453



- 1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
- 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
- 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
- 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

## **\*BENEDICTION**

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.**

## **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**     *God of Grace and God of Glory*     John Hughes, arr. Mary McDonald

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