

Lord of *Life* Lutheran Church

119 West Wise Road + Schaumburg, IL
847-895-8877 + WWW.LORD-OF-LIFE.ORG

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

“Preparing the Soil”



7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Welcome to Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word in worship in-person and online. We encourage you to follow along in this document. If you are joining us online, please send the office an email at LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org so we know of your participation.

May the Lord bless our worship this day.

As We Gather

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

As We Offer

We offer our contributions in-person or online at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) through this link https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1438924 or with your phone by taking a picture of this QR Code.



+ Gathering +

PRELUDE ~ *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

Edward Broughton

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God, Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ~ *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* ELW 533



- 1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
- 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
- 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
- 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

GREETING

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

C And also with you.



KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, 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.



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

II 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 seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

I Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

I II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

II Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

+ Word +

We sit.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55:10-13

A A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65:1-13



- A** ¹ You are to be praised, O | God, in Zion;
to you shall vows | be fulfilled.
- C** ² **To you, the one | who answers prayer,
to you all | flesh shall come.**
- A** ³ Our sins are strong- | er than we are,
but you blot out | our transgressions.
- C** ⁴ **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to
your | courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by
the holiness | of your temple.**
- A** ⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O
God of | our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the
oceans | far away.
- C** ⁶ **You make firm the mountains | by your power;
you are girded a- | bout with might.**
- A** ⁷ You still the roaring | of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor | of the peoples.
- C** ⁸ **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at
your | marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to | sing for joy.**
- A** ⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very
plenteous; the river of God is | full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

G ¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its
increase.

A ¹¹ You crown the year | with your goodness,
and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

G ¹² May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,
and the hills be | clothed with joy.

A ¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the
valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;
let them shout for | joy and sing.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

A A reading from Romans.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in

you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



G Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.

² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds

came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *As Rain from the Clouds*

ELW 508



1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
2 As grain that is scat - tered your word has been sown
3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,



as snow from the heav - ens re - fresh - ing the land.
on rocks and on road - ways, in good earth and sand.
a - wak - ing and warm - ing and heal - ing our land.



Then soft - en our soil that the good seed may grow
Make fer - tile our soil that the good seed may grow
Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow



and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.



We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;



we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.



We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,



for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

We stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

- A** Let us confess the faith of the church with the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C** 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 INTERCESSION

- A** Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends:

- A** God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- P** Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ Meal +

We sit.

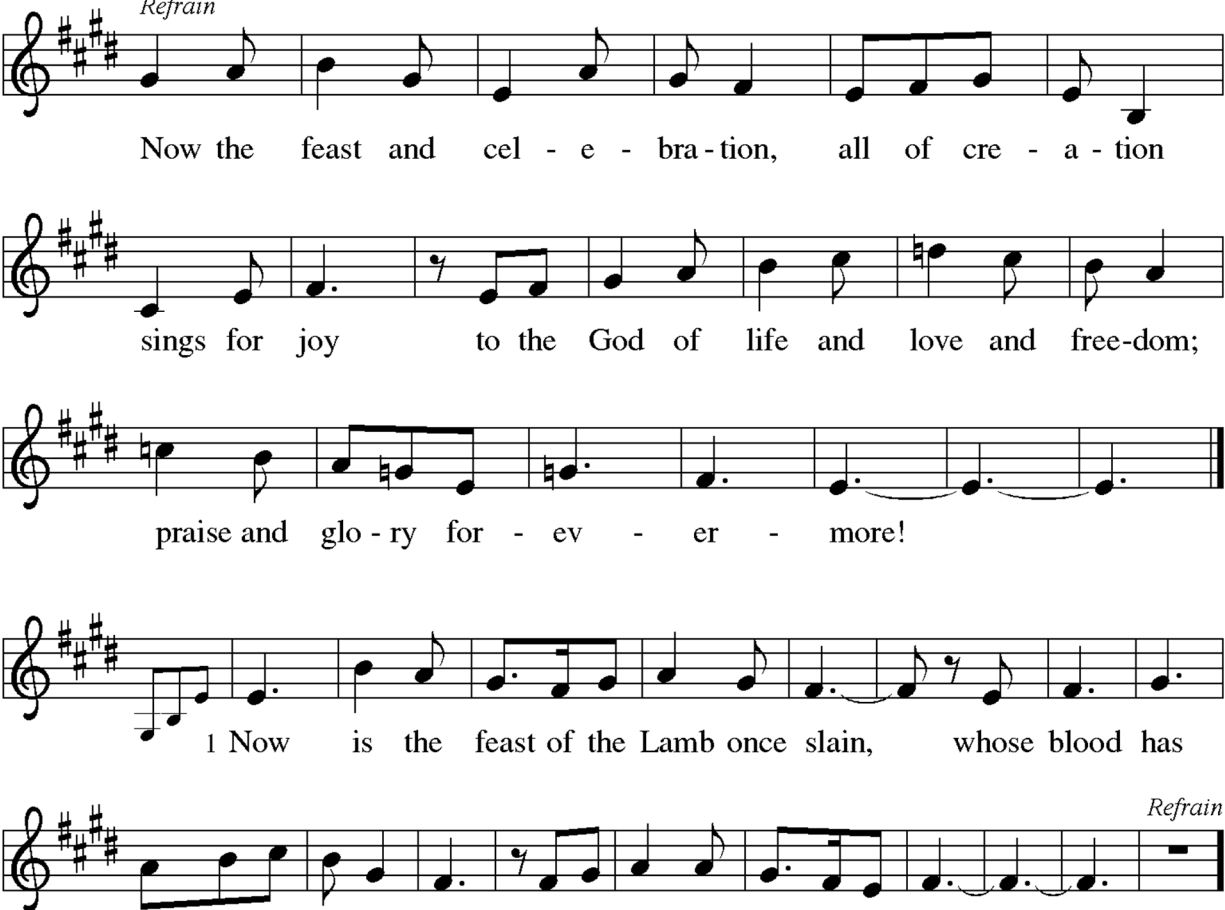
OFFERTORY ~ *Deep River*

Marianne Kim

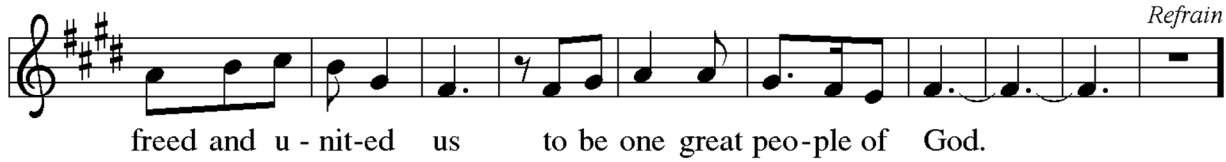
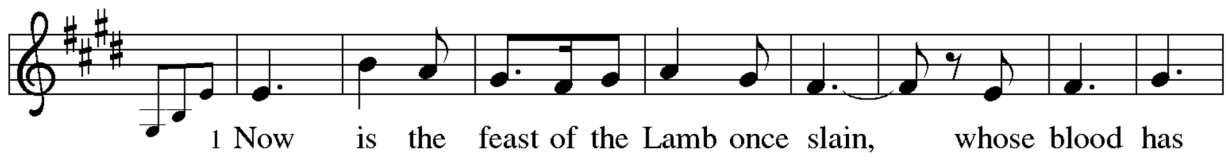
OFFERING SONG ~ *Now the Feast and Celebration*

ELW 167

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has
Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

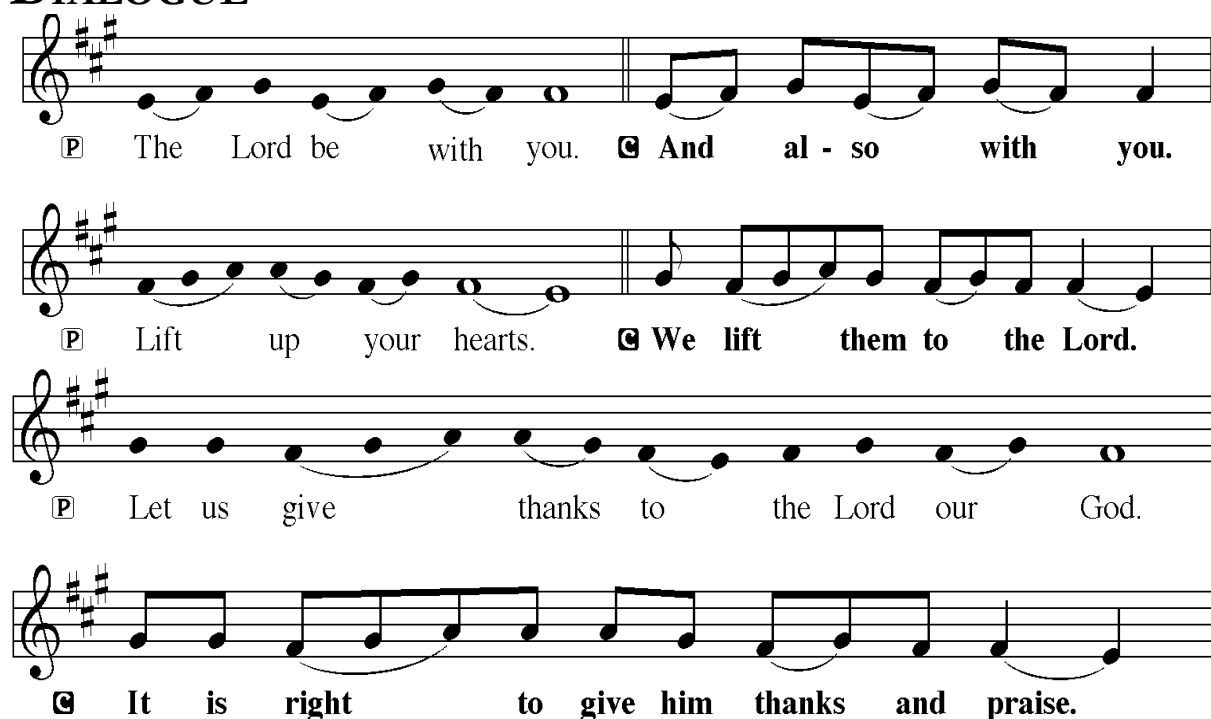


OFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

G Amen.

DIALOGUE



Dialogue section musical notation. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a 'P' (Psalter) and a 'C' (Cantor) part. The second staff also has 'P' and 'C' parts. The third staff has a 'P' part. The fourth staff has a 'C' part. 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. It is right to give him thanks and praise.'

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

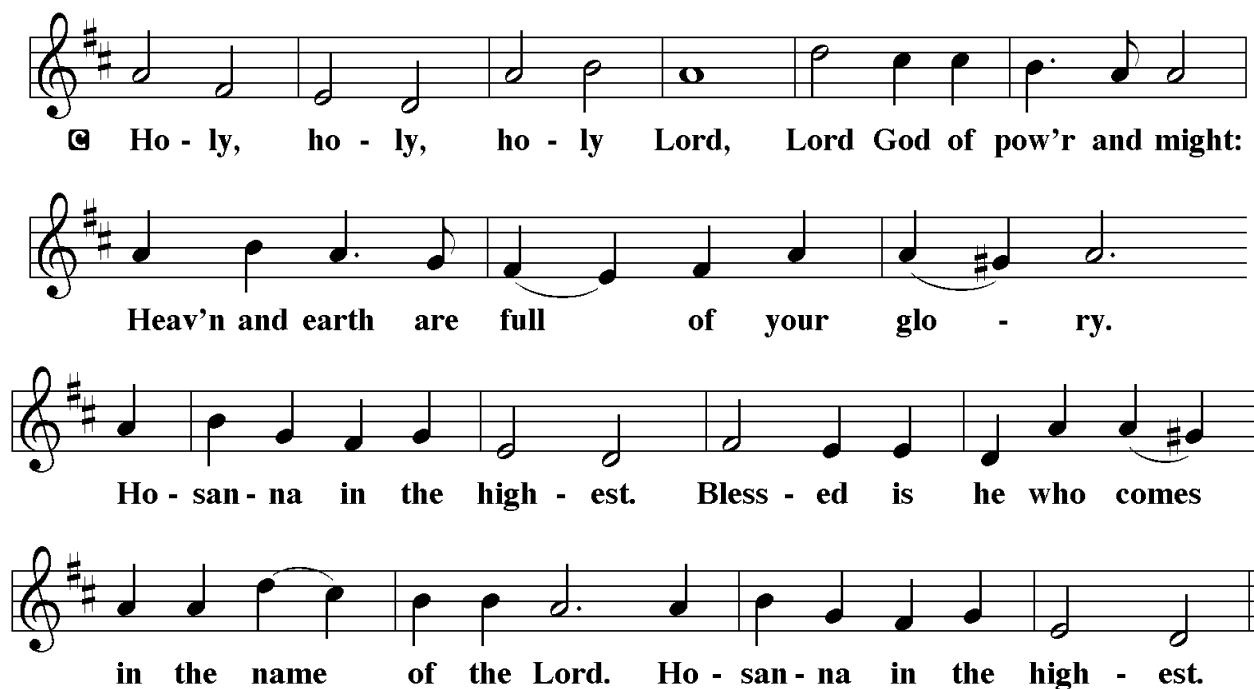
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary...praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Sanctus section musical notation. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a 'C' (Cantor) part. The second staff has a 'C' part. The third staff has a 'C' part. The fourth staff has a 'C' part. 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.'

C 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.

THANKSGIVING

P Holy God, Almighty Father,
our merciful guide and redeemer, all creation sings your praise...

...Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and
forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray the words our Lord taught us.

C 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.

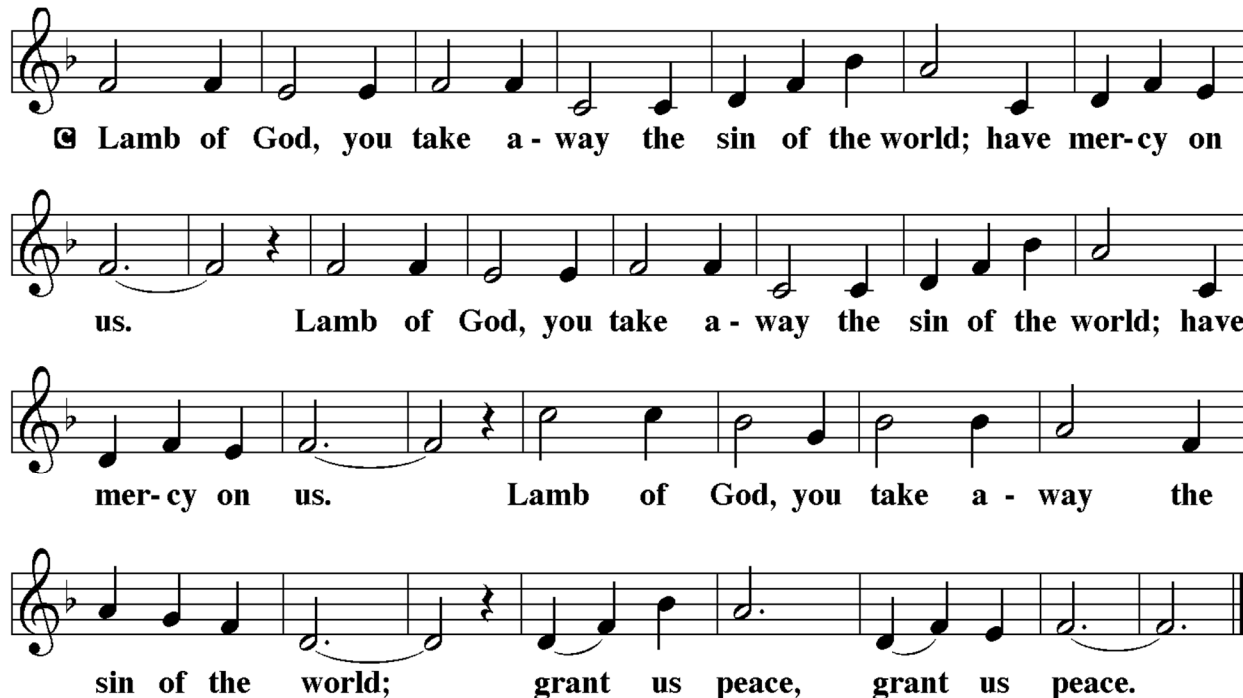
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

C Amen.

We sit.

AGNUS DEI

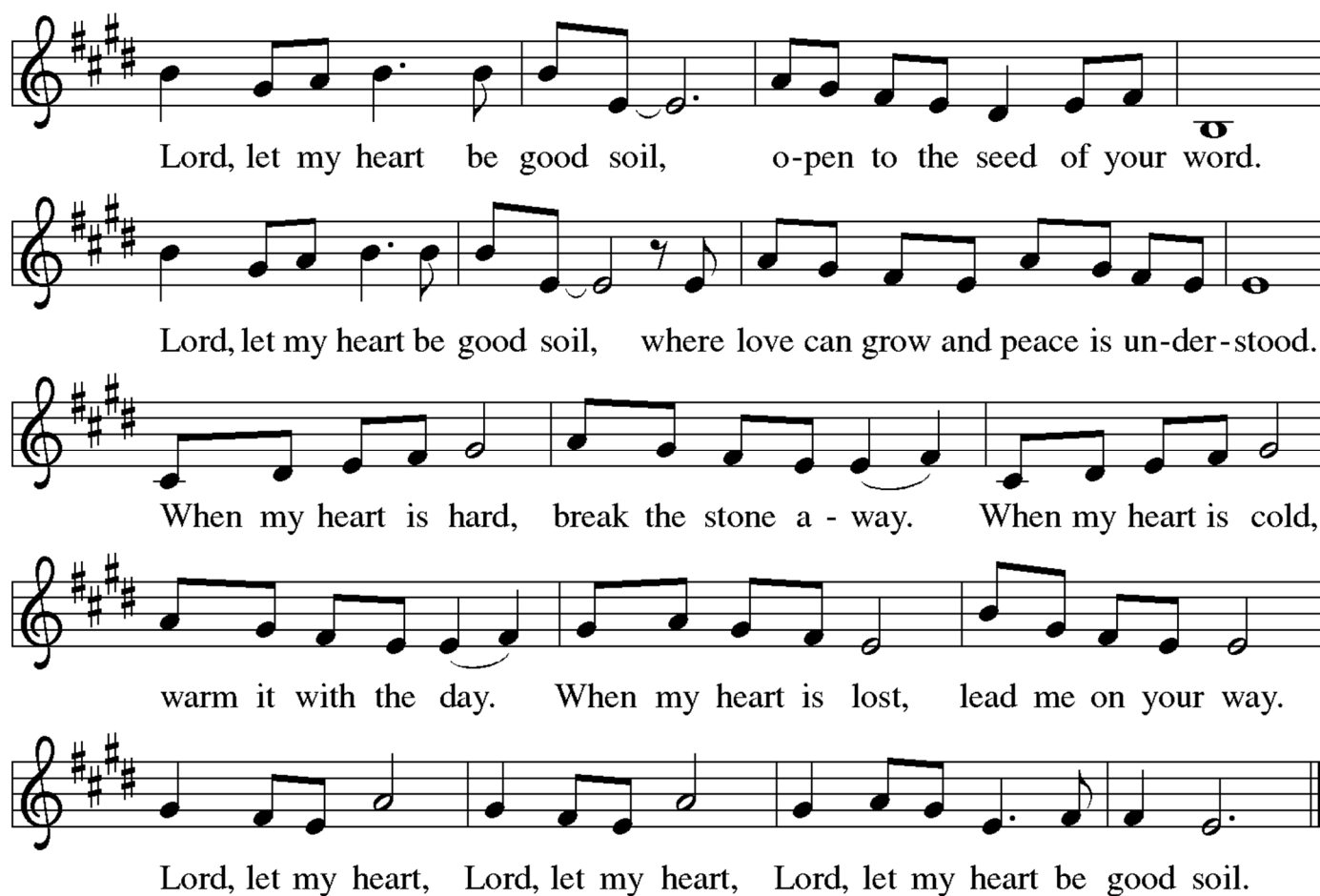


COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to the table of the Lord who is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine. We gather at the communion rail and consume the elements by intinction, taking the wafer and dipping it into the chalice of wine. Half of the chalice is dark wine and the other half is white apple juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request during distribution. Children who have yet to commune are welcome to receive a blessing. Please inform the ushers if you will need to partake of the Lord's supper at your place in the pew.



COMMUNION HYMN ~ *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* ELW 512



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

G Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

G Amen.

+ Sending +

BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN ~ *On What Has Now Been Sown*

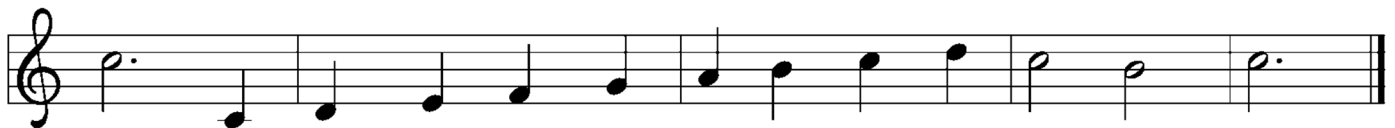
ELW 550



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE ~ *O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth* Sue Mitchell Wallace

Copyright Acknowledgments: Portions of this liturgy reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship*, copyright © 1978 by Augsburg Fortress, *With One Voice*, copyright © 1995 by Augsburg Fortress, *All Creation Sings*, copyright 2020 by Augsburg Fortress, and *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright © 2006 by Augsburg Fortress. Graphics and Sending Hymn reprinted from *Sundaysandseasons.com*. All rights reserved. All of the above used by permission of Augsburg Fortress liturgies license #SAS011052. Readings come from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty, Edward Broughton © 2003 by Lorenz Publishing Company. Deep River, Marianne Kim © 2024 by Augsburg Fortress. O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, Sue Mitchell Wallace © 1985 by Hope Publishing Co.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A- 714453. All rights reserved.

✝ LEADING WORSHIP TODAY ✝

Pastor Rebekah Weant, Presiding Minister

Diane Bele, Music Director

Stephanie Olson, Audio Visual

Jim Heinking, Assisting Minister

Jim Heinking, Reader

Johnson Family, Greeters

Taylor Johnson & Myla Johnson, Ushers

THE FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by John Bibby in memory of Annette Bibby

THE BULLETIN is given to the glory of God by Jan Stage in honor of Jim & Natalie's 18th anniversary

✝ WELCOME TO WORSHIP GUESTS, VISITORS & MEMBERS ✝

IN-PERSON WORSHIP REGISTRATION SHEETS

All guests, visitors & members please **sign-in** each **Sunday** on the attendance sheets **located in the blue folder** at the end of your pew

Members, please update any new contact information.

Guests and visitors, we encourage you to provide contact information - this helps us to get to know you!

ONLINE WORSHIP

If you participate in worship on-line, please email the church office directly at LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org or call the office and let us know you attended.

Thank you!