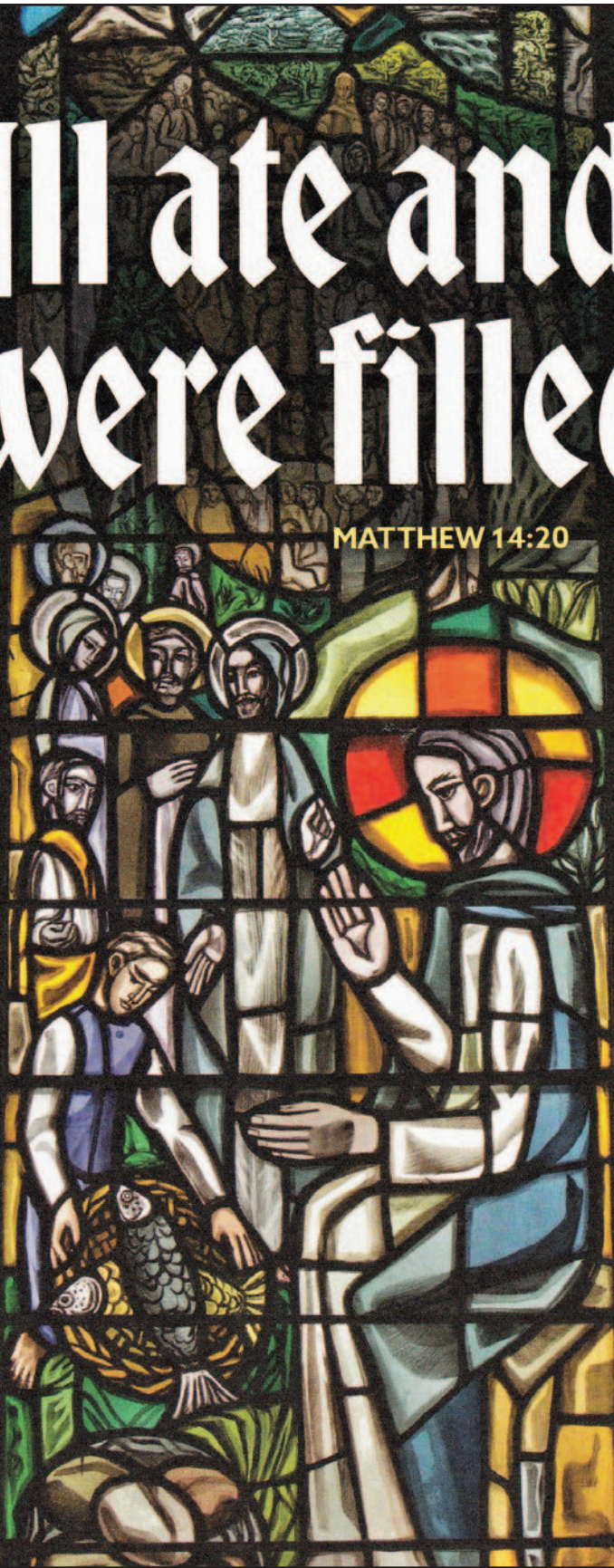


St. John Lutheran Church

All ate and were filled

MATTHEW 14:20



Cover: Loaves and fishes stained glass. County Galway, Ireland. Photo by craft images. Copyright © 2025 Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

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ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • AUGUST 2, 2026

Reverent Reflection

Prelude

Welcome

Church Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive 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.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. 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.
- C. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Thy Strong Word (#511)

Apostolic 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 p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**

- P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

Canticle p. 149

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.
- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

- ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
- ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Response: "You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works. R**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works. R**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you; you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you, but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever. R**

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Children's Sermon

Anthem

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by 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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit (especially).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Great Thanksgiving p. 152

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

Preface p. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n 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.**

Words of Institution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153

Lord's Prayer

Let us 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion p. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns: Precious Lord, Take My Hand (#773)
Rock of Ages (#623)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn: Praise And Thanksgiving (#689)

Dismissal

Postlude

ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 2nd

Dedicated by Deborah Kuhn in memory of Anne Trout on her birthday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	10:00 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service (Summer)
	After Worship Service	Coffee Hour continues through the summer
	After Worship Service	Summer Sundays (casual youth activities) thru Sept.6th)
	11:30 am	Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection
		Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Saturday, August 8th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Monday, August 10th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Tuesday, August 11th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Wednesday, August 19th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Sunday, September 13th	12:00 pm	Visit to Edelman Planetarium at Rowan University

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III
Krystal Booras	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Bill Murray	Bill Steel
Michael Botti	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Renate Murray	Carol Taylor
Brian Byrnes	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Erica Polito	Henry Tesone
Meadow Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Samantha Reed	Bill Todt
Randy Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Kimberly Rickert	George Vaneman, Sr.
Debbie Capasso	Bob Garner	Doug Levandowski	Ashley Rosser	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Dorcas Schellhas	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Jean Schlotz	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Finn Schureman	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Gladys Sheppard	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	John Muller	Meilani Showell	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

Dedicated by Henry and Marie Fickenschier in memory of and in honor of their loved ones,



GOOD NEWS!

COFFEE HOUR will continue through the summer!

Join us for food, beverages and fellowship every Sunday after the Worship Service!

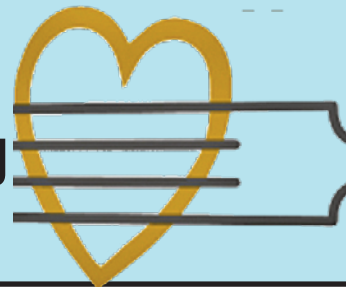
THE

COMMUNITY

LUNCHEON

Saturday, August 8th

11:30 am in the
Ed. Building



church council
MEETING

Monday, August 10th
7:00 pm in the Parish House

Bible Study

Tuesday, August 11th
7pm in the
Parish House

GRIEF GATHERING

Wednesday, August 19th
7:00 pm in the Parish House Tea Room
All Are Welcome!



Every Sunday now
through September 6th
after the Worship Service
in the Ed. Building.



Activities every
Sunday with crafts
and outdoor games.

Please come and join the fun!

Photo courtesy of Rowan University



"In the beginning God

On Sunday, Sept. 13 @ 12 pm
St. John's Church will visit the

Edelman Planetarium
at Rowan University

Worlds Beyond Earth (grade 6 to adult)

Cost: \$10 per person

Sign up by August 16 (registration sheet in the narthex)

Pay by August 30 (see Andrea)

created the heavens and the earth." — Genesis 1:1

Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth

speaking it was done. For created light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er

thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
to thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
praise the holy Trinity!

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

773

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

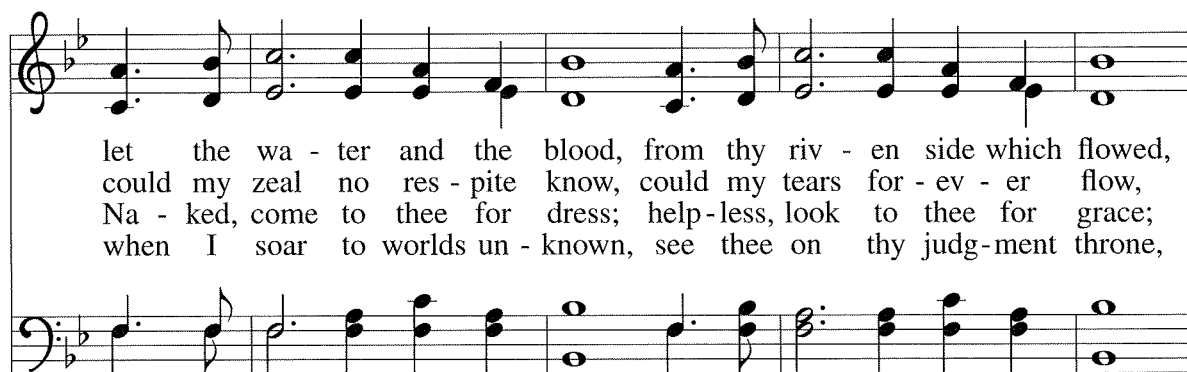
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

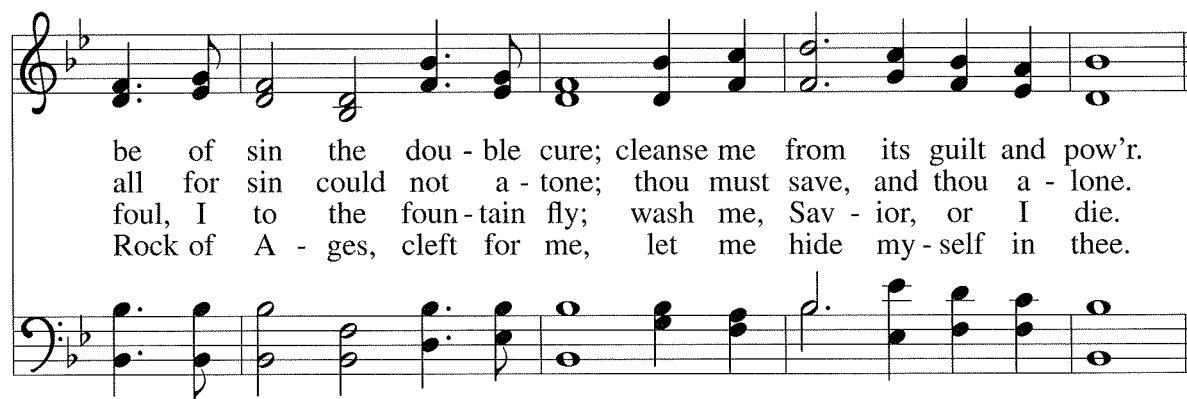
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of the song features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The third system introduces the refrain. The melody and accompaniment continue. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

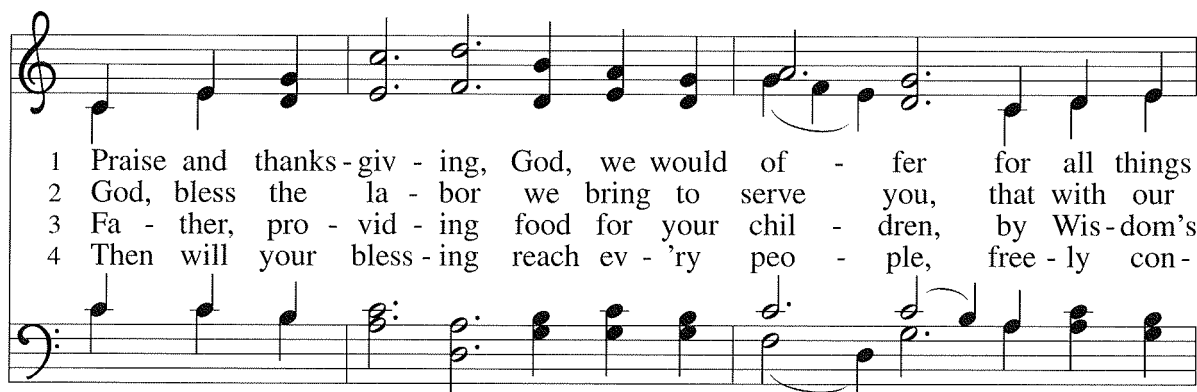
The fourth system concludes the song. The melody and accompaniment continue. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual

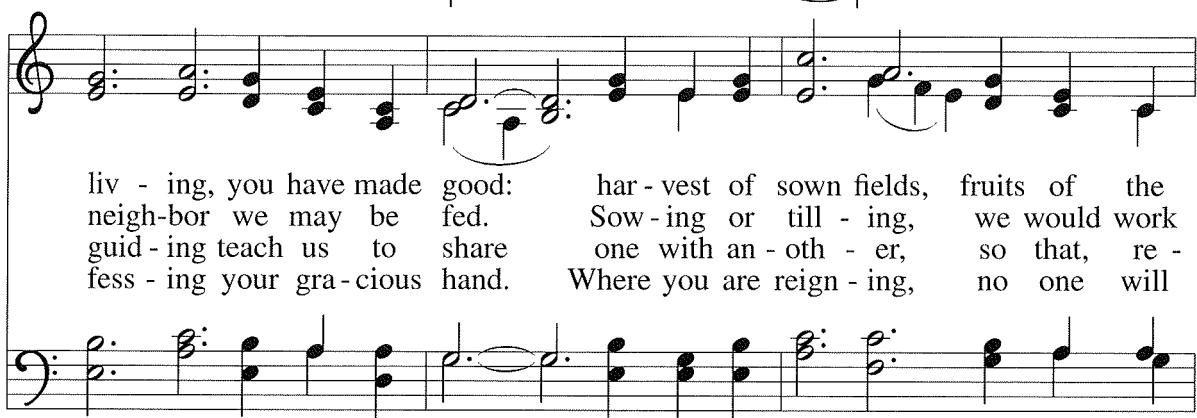
BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
10 10 and refrain

Praise and Thanksgiving

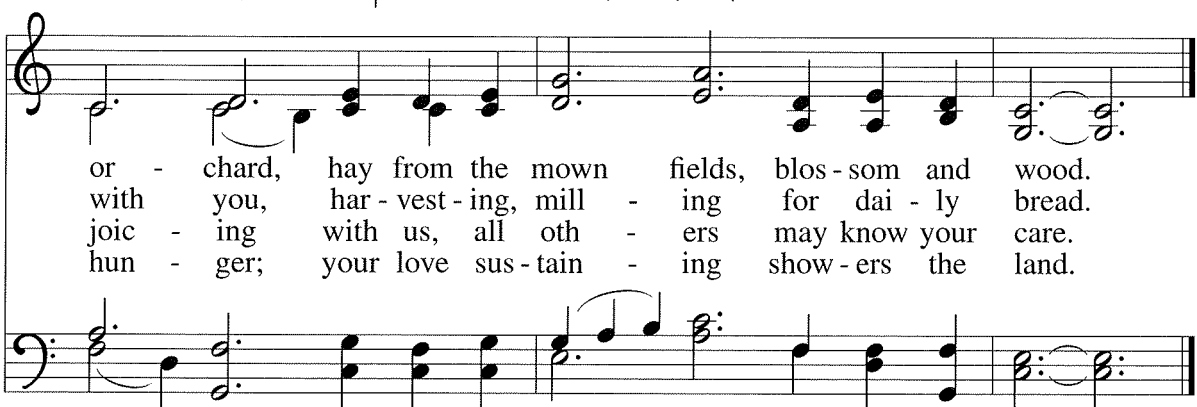
689



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.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
 Text © Oxford University Press
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

BUNESSAN
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SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithely giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

- From your checking account or using your debit/credit card
- One-time donation or set up for recurring giving
- Designate specific ministry for your donation
- Scan the QR code to get started
- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher



Holy Communion Lutheran Church of Berlin Baby Pantry need:



BABY DIAPERS
(especially larger sizes)
Collection is in the Narthex.



Please help us . . .

**Donate Shelf Stable Milk for
Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.**

Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094

Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer

Phone Number: 1-856-875-8742 • Email: stjohnslutheran1002@yahoo.com

Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver

Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher

Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith

Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver

Head Usher: Ted Adams

Sexton: Betsey Eley

Webmaster: Tom Schofield

Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher