SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

10AM

SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annapolis, Maryland

The Holy Spirt gathers us once again on this Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE *Rhosymedre* *- J. D. Edwards*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - *Pastor*

(Please stand as you are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - *Pastor*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

1 John 1:8

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

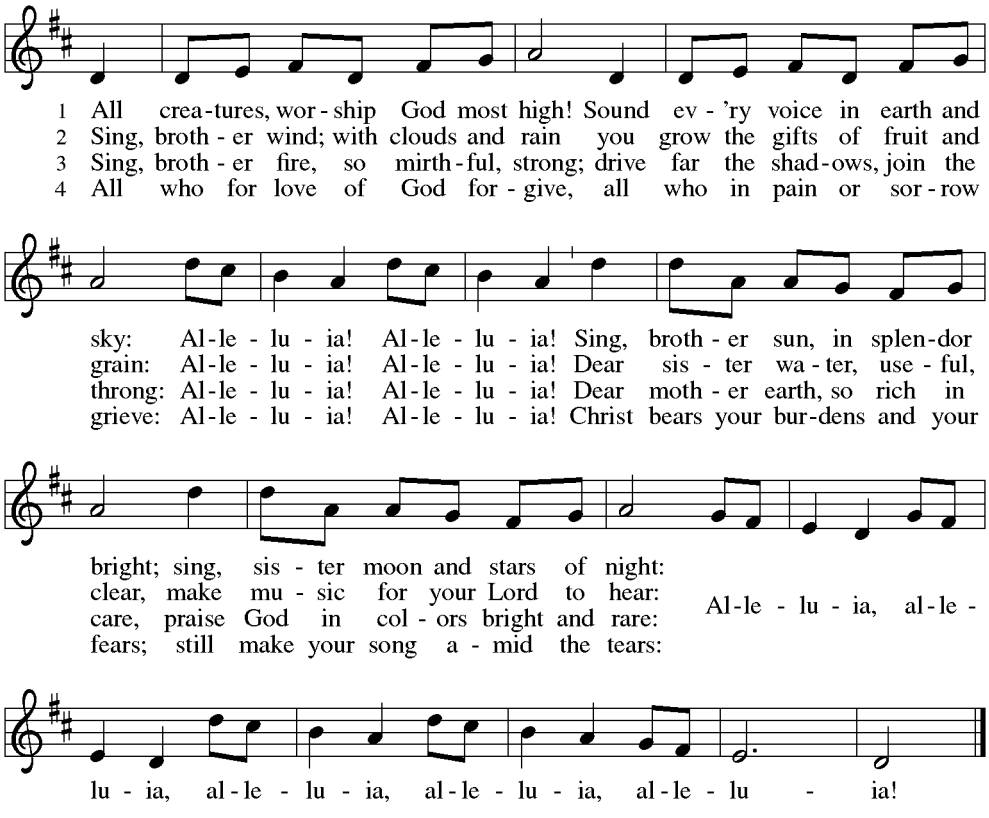
Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

GATHERING HYMN **All Creatures, Worship God Most High!** **ELW 835 (vs. 1-4)**



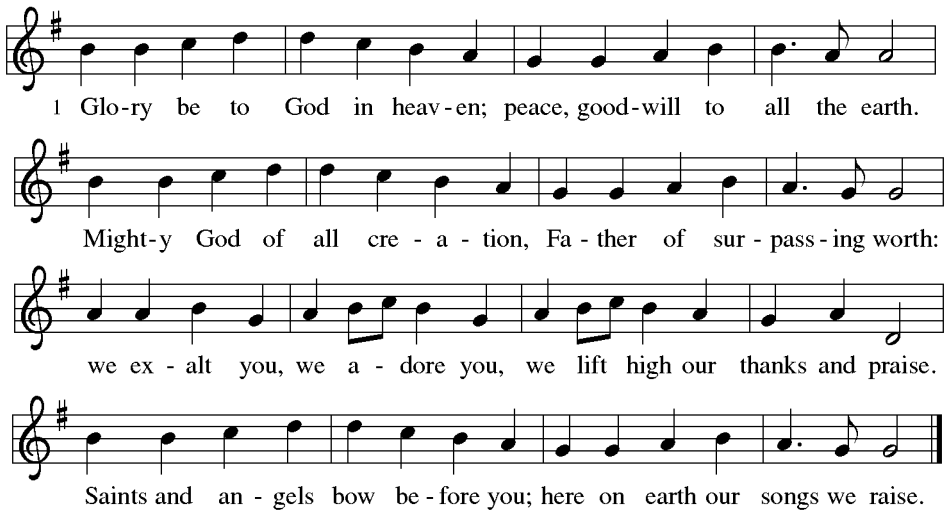
2 Corinthians 13:13-14

GREETING - *Pastor*

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.**

We ask for God's mercy Luke 17:13; 18-39, Psalm 123:3

HYMN OF PRAISE



This prayer "collects" the theme of the day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY - *Assisting Minister*

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

BLESSING OF ST. MARTIN'S SCHOOL TEACHERS

This reading is typically from the Hebrew Scriptures, which Jesus often quoted.

THE FIRST LESSON - *Lector* **Genesis 50:15-21**

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge
against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Jo-
seph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the
crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the
crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his
brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." 19 But Joseph said to
them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20 Even though you intended to do harm to me,
God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21 So have no
fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly
to them.

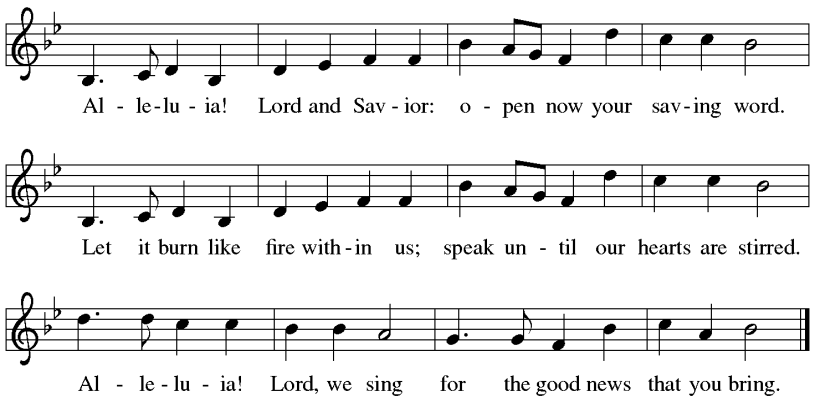
The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

This reading bears witness to the early church.

THE SECOND LESSON - *Lector* **Romans 14:1-12**

[1] Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. [2] Some
believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. [3] Those who eat must not despise those
who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed
them. [4] Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand
or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. [5] Some judge one day to be
better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own
minds. [6] Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord,
since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.
[7] For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. [8] If we live, we live to the Lord, and if
we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. [9] For to this
end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. [10] Why do
you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For
we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. [11] For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every
knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." [12] So then, each one of us will be
held accountable. The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.** *(Please stand as you are able)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We acclaim the living Word, Jesus Christ, present in the gospel reading.

John 6:68

THE GOSPEL LESSON - *Pastor* **Matthew 18:21-35**

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew the eighteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

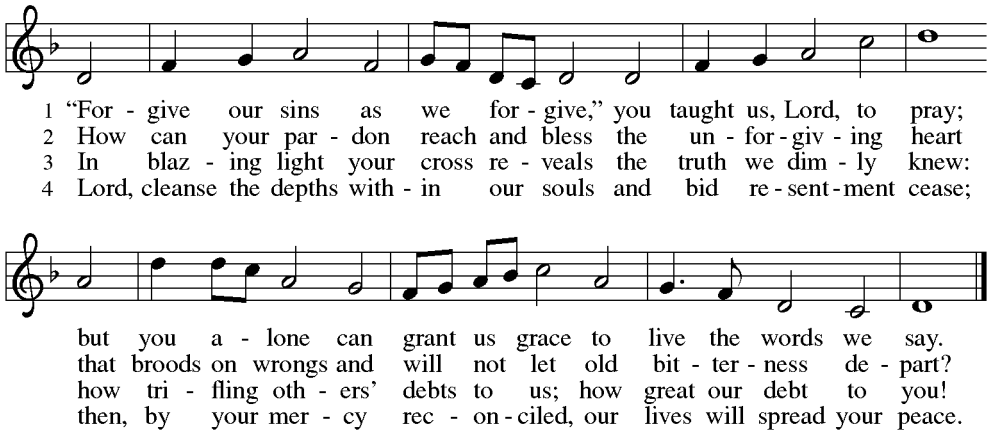
[21] Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I for-
give? As many as seven times?" [22] Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven
times. [23] "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle ac-
counts with his slaves. [24] When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was
brought to him, [25] and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife
and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. [26] So the slave fell on his knees before
him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' [27] And out of pity for him, the
lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. [28] But that same slave, as he went out, came
upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said,
'Pay what you owe.' [29] Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me,
and I will pay you.' [30] But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the
debt. [31] When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went
and reported to their lord all that had taken place. [32] Then his lord summoned him and said to him,
'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. [33] Should you not have
had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' [34] And in anger his lord handed him over to
be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. [35] So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of
you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(Please be seated)*

Viva Vox," the Living Word of God interpreted. (Romans 10:14-17)

SERMON - *Pastor*
(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY **Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive** **ELW 605**



Ancient church councils adopted the summary of the church's faith in the Nicene, Apostles' and Athanasian Creeds.

CONFESSION OF FAITH - *Assisting Minister* **The 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 again 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.

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. (I Timothy 2:1-2; I Thessalonians 5:17; Acts 2:42)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - *Assisting Minister*
To the words "Hear us, O God," the congregation responds **"Your mercy is great."**

Extending God's word of peace to others. (Romans 16:16; Matthew 5:23-24)

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *Pastor*

1 Corinthians 16:1-2
2 Corinthians 9:7-9

THE OFFERING *(Please be seated)*
We thank you for your generosity and support! We are blessed to return thanks to God through our offerings to support the work of the Church in the world. Ushers will bring the plates to those worshipping in person this day. For those worshipping online you may give electronically or by way of US Mail. Your gifts enable our day to day operational budget, our missions, and the care of those in need. Please visit www.stmartinsannapolis.org/giving or scan the QR code here:

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *You Are Forgiven* *- Larry Shackley*

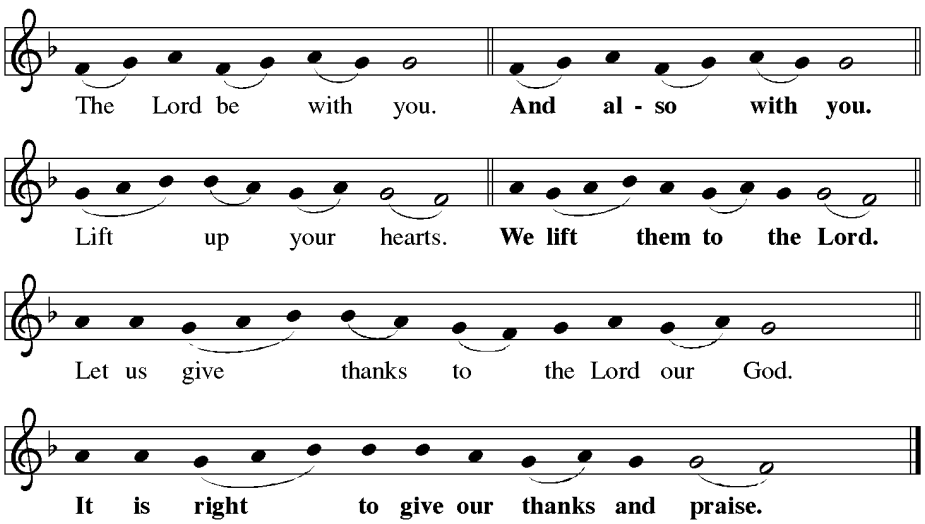
OFFERTORY RESPONSE **ELW 184**

OFFERING PRAYER - *Assisting Minister*

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. **Amen.**

Before the Lord's supper is shared, the presiding minister leads us into thanksgiving. (Psalm 15:1)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please stand as you are able)* - *Pastor*

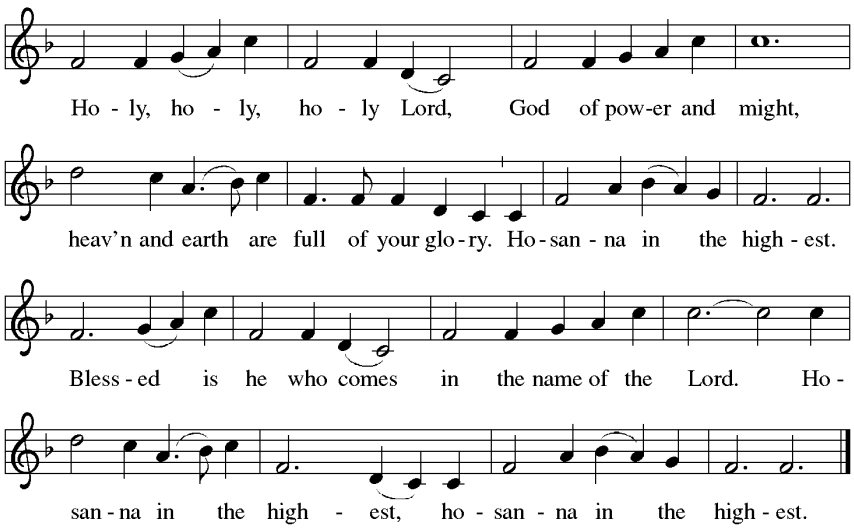


PREFACE - *Pastor*

It is indeed right our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God. (Isaiah 6:3)

THE SANCTUS



In these words—Jesus institutes the sacrament for the church

Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *Pastor*

Jesus teaches his disciples to pray. (Luke 11:2-4; Matthew 6:9-13)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - *Pastor*

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. *(Please be seated)*

Our invitation to Christ's Table (adapted from Iona Community, Scotland)

INVITATION - *Pastor*

This is Christ's table. It is a table of love and welcome. It is a table of fellowship with the poor. It is a table of communion with the earth.

So, come those of you who have great faith and those of you who wish you had more.

Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus, and those of you who have failed.

Come, those of you who depend on this sacrament for your life, and those of you for whom it is a new and strange thing. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come!

As John the Baptist pointed to Jesus, he said these words.

(John 1:29)

The Agnus Dei

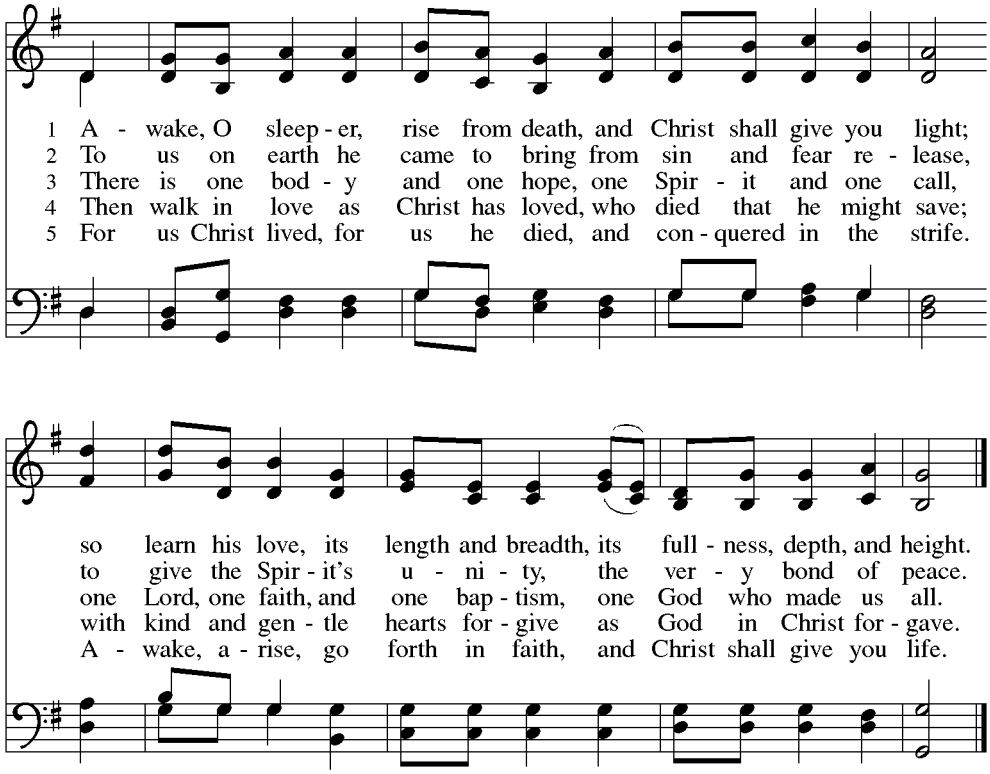
*****<u>Blue Communion Cards</u>– Please remember to fill in a blue communion card each week. You can hand your blue communion cards to an usher as you come up for communion.**

Distribution of Holy Communion

- At the Lord's Table we share in the gift of Jesus' body and blood. Please bring an empty glass from the head of the aisle to receive wine from a pouring cup. Grape juice is available in the pre-filled glasses near the empty ones. If you need a gluten-free option for bread, please indicate that to the person with bread. Peel away communion kits are also available for any who so desire. Blessings will be given to those not yet communing.

Communion Hymns — God's Work, Our Hands — ACS 1000

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death ELW 452



POST COMMUNION BLESSING *(Please stand as you are able)* - *Pastor*

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER - *Assisting Minister*

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.

Amen.

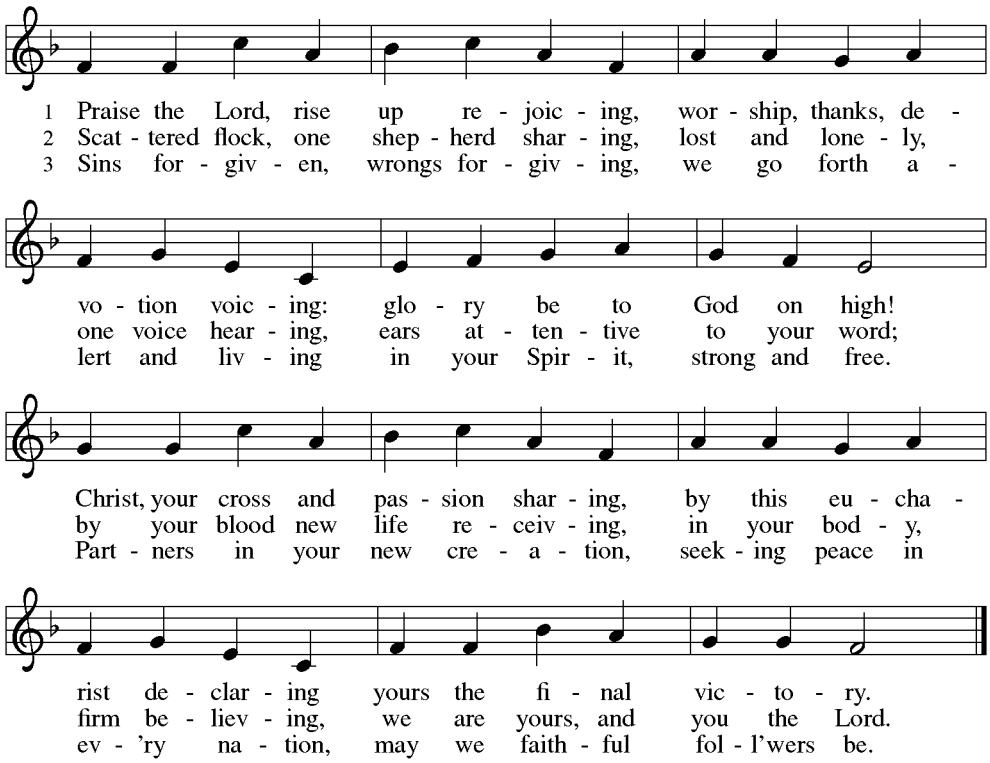
A personal blessing from God in the name of the Triune God. (Numbers 6:24-26)

BENEDICTION - *Pastor*

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ☩ and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

On our way rejoicing. (Colossians 3:16; Philippians 4:4)

RECESSIONAL HYMN — Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing — ELW 544



We go forth to bless the world Luke 7:50; Romans 10:12-13

DISMISSAL - *Assisting Minister*

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE — *Nun Danket alle Gott* — *- Sigfrid Karg Elert*

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You are invited on a trip to see Joshua at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA on Thursday, October 29, 2026. This spectacular theatre experience will bring to life the events of Joshua's life from the banks of the Jordan River to the towering walls of Jericho.

Sign up by contacting Betty Knupp: **Knuppster@aol.com** or: 410-956-4881, to secure a place with payment due September 21. Include your e-mail and cell number so she can send a reminder and trip details in mid-October.

Our tickets are in the center orchestra. The cost is $175 for adults and $100 for children, which includes the coach bus and driver tip, the theatre show, and lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord. Please give your check to Betty, payable to Elizabeth Knupp, or put it in her box in the church office

We will depart from St. Martin's at 8:00am on October 29, arriving home around 6:00pm. Families and guests are welcome. **- Only a few spaces still available!**

Annapolis Pride Parade
Saturday, October 3rd
United in Pride,

Together We Thrive!

Come walk with us as we celebrate and affirm God's love for every person. Pride is an opportunity for us to be visible and welcoming in our own community. And to share our church is a place where everyone is valued, loved, and celebrated, just as they are. This year we will continue our tradition and walk with other ELCA Annapolis Area churches and have a table at the festival following the parade.

Everyone is invited!

You can walk with us in the parade, cheer us on from the sidelines, or help at our festival table. Use the link below to sign up and indicate how you would like to participate or sign up in the narthex.

Want to show even more Pride~ purchase our church parade shirt this year. Cost is $10 and we have sizes youth small-4XL. Order shirts by emailing Laura or use the form in the narthex on Sunday morning.

Serving in Worship Today	
Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Micah Krey
Director of Music Ministry	Adedotun Olayemi
Media Technician	Sara Wetz
Assisting Minister	Linda Wetz
Lector	Paulette Fish
Communion Assistants	Cam Cloeter Glenn Hollenbeck
Ushers	Ches and Sue Lanham Randy and Michele Soileau
Altar Set Up	Martha Hollenbeck Judy Houston
Communion Cleanup	Sandy Ourisson Judy Svoboda

Opportunities This Week

Monday, September 14, 2026

10:00 am Flying Quilters (Fellowship)

Wednesday, September 15, 2026

7:00 am Men's Bible Study (Double T)

Thursday, September 17, 2026

11:30 am Mid-Day Bible Study (Double T)

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Sunday, September 20, 2026

8:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)

9:00 am Breakfast & Devotions (Art Room)

Confirmation Class (Lounge)

Sunday School (Fellowship)

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)

The Flower Arrangement is Given Today

To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Karl, Husband, Father, and Grandfather

by Peg Kamp

Sunday, October 4th
9am
Courtyard
Pet Blessing Worship

Paws, claws, feathers, scales and even stuffed animals!
Bring your beloved furry, feathered, scaly, or stuffed friend to our Annual Pet Blessing Service with Communion as we give thanks for the joy, companionship, and unconditional love our pets bring into our lives.
Can't bring your pet in person? Bring a favorite photo and we'll bless them from afar.
Come celebrate God's love with the whole family including the four-legged, winged, and imaginary members!

All are welcome.

If you are attending the meal packing event today, please scan the QR code below, click the volunteer tab, select shift #01 and be sure to sign the waiver form. - Thank you!

Rise Against Hunger
food · community · sustainability