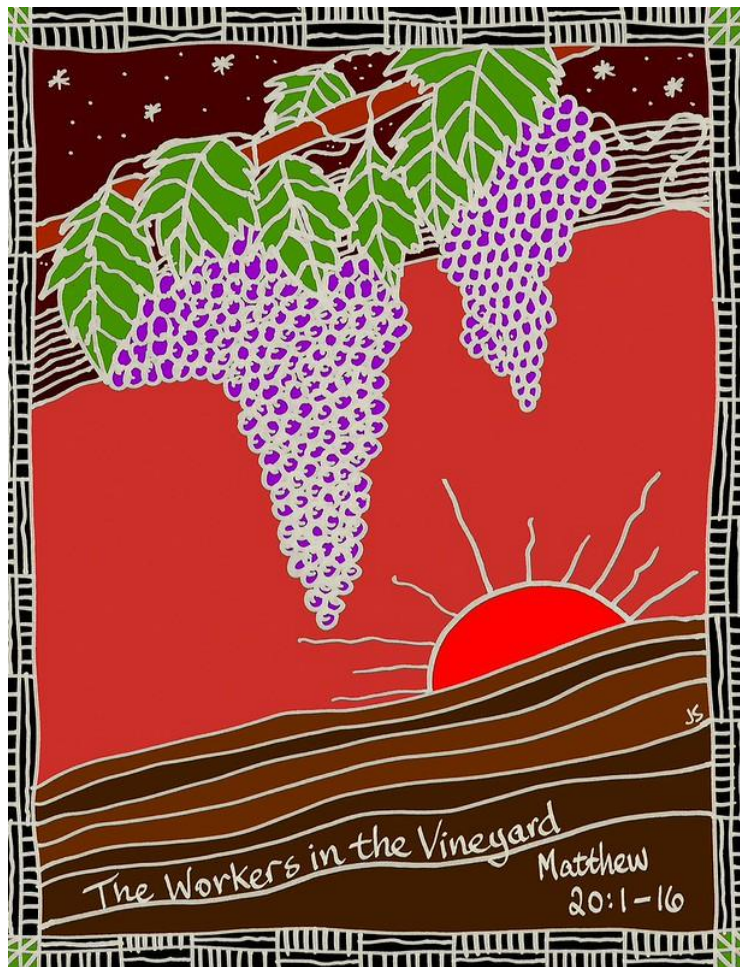


SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

10AM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - *Pastor*

(Please stand as you are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - *Pastor*

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent

suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing

as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that

fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain

Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

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.**

KYRIE (*The Congregation sings the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.*)



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY - *Assisting Minister*

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

THE FIRST LESSON - *Lector*

Jonah 3:10–4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. ^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

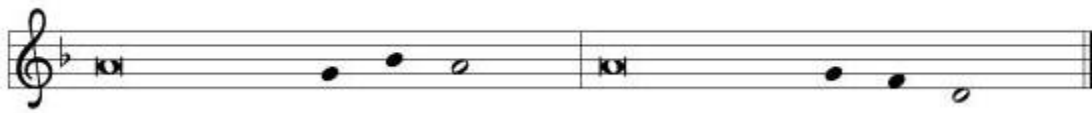
⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

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

THE PSALM *(Sung Together)*

Psalm 145:1-8



C: Choir
A: All

- C ¹ I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- A ² Every day ¹ will I bless you
and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- C ³ Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.
- A ⁴ One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another
and shall de- ¹ clare your power.
- C ⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.
- A ⁶ They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.
- C ⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your righteousness.
- A ⁸ The LORD is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.

THE SECOND LESSON - *Lector*

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.** *(Please stand as you are able)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL LESSON - *Pastor*

Matthew 20:1-16

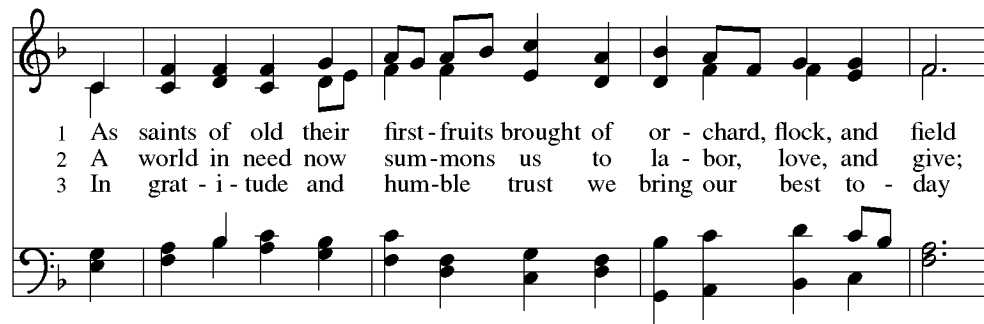
The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

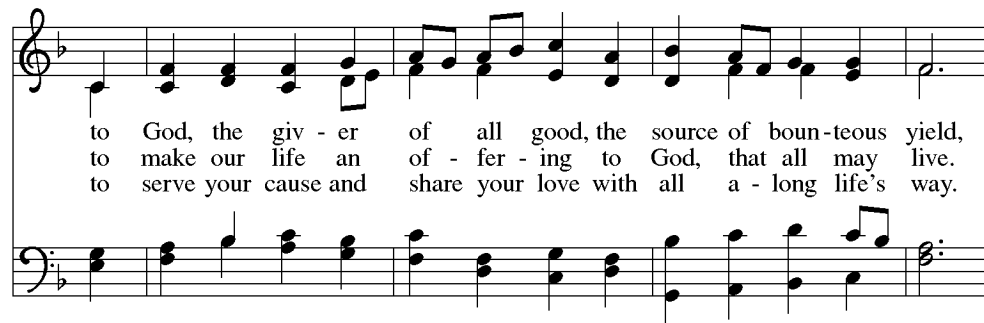
[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

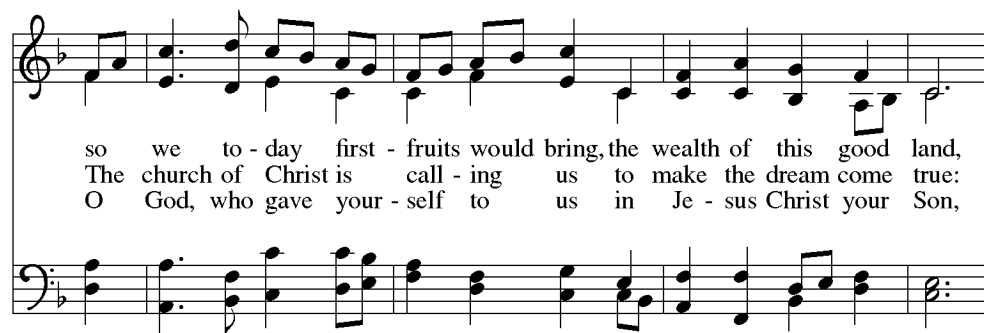
SERMON - *Pastor*



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - *Assisting Minister*

To the words "Hear us, O God," the congregation responds, "**Your mercy is great.**"

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *Pastor*

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 below:



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Use Me, Lord

- *Sheldon Curry*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.

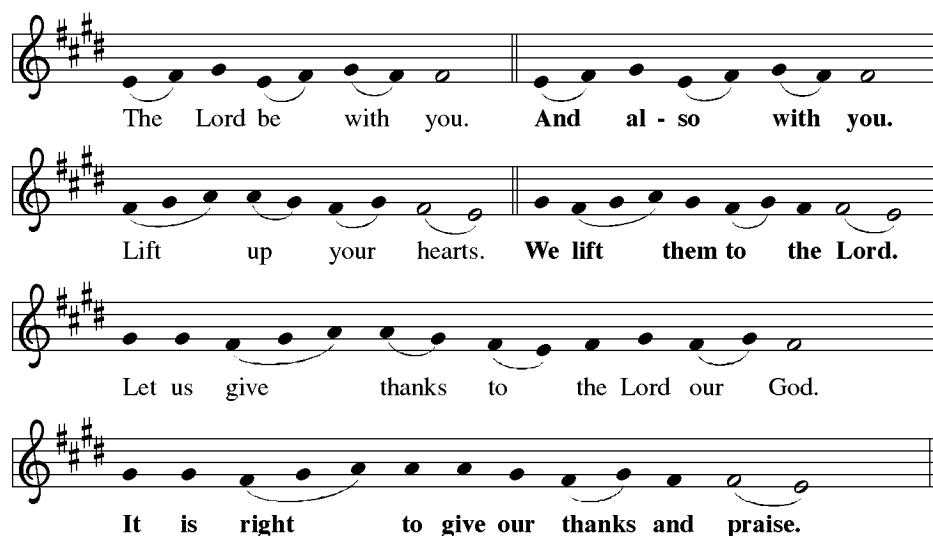
For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.

OFFERING PRAYER - *Assisting Minister*

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

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



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

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

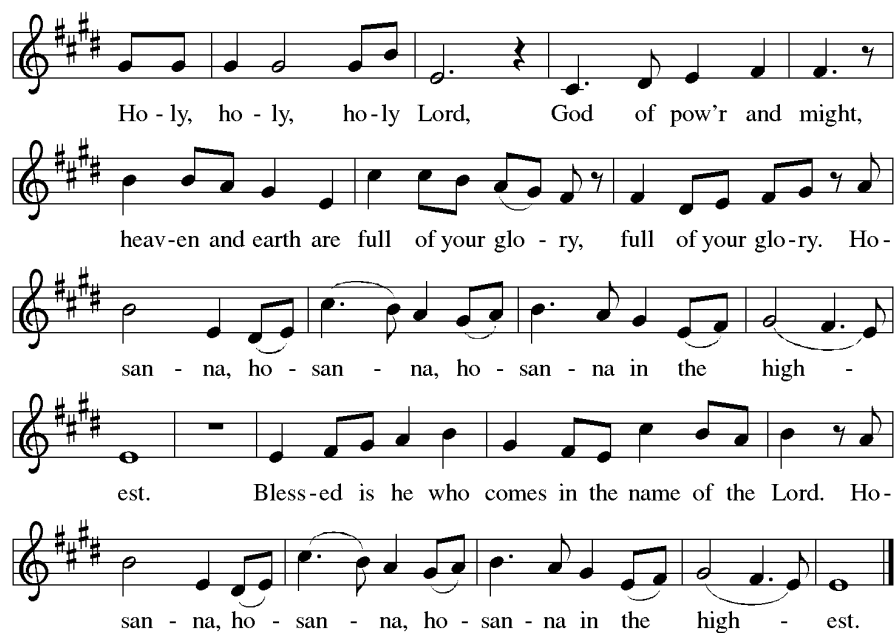
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE - *Pastor*

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

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *Pastor*

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)

INVITATION - *Pastor*

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

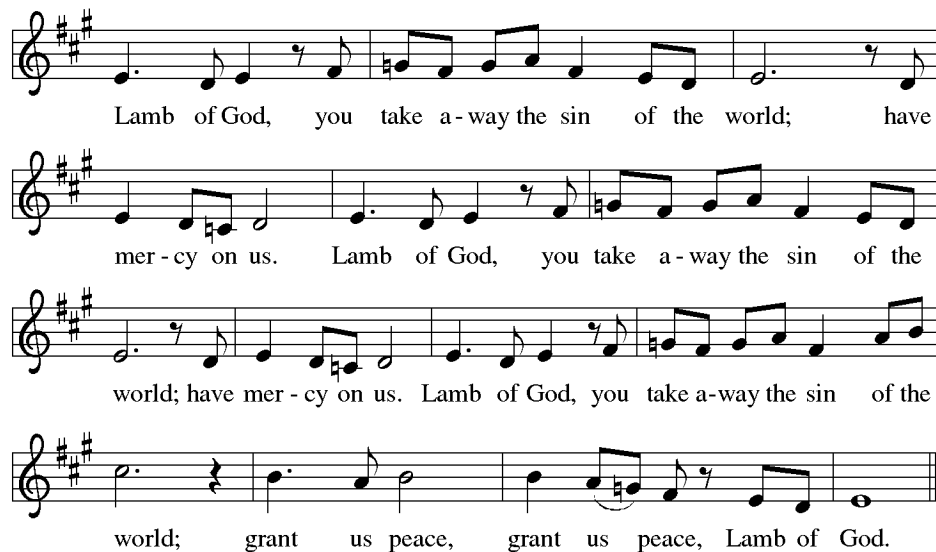
It is a table of communion with the earth.

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!

THE AGNUS DEI



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, Lamb of God.

***Blue Communion Cards– 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.

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.



Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

ELW 401

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.
 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.

Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain
Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
 nor rootless liberty;
 turn disquiet to contentment,
 doubt into certainty.

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
 unswayed by earth's allure.
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,
 which you alone assure.

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*

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

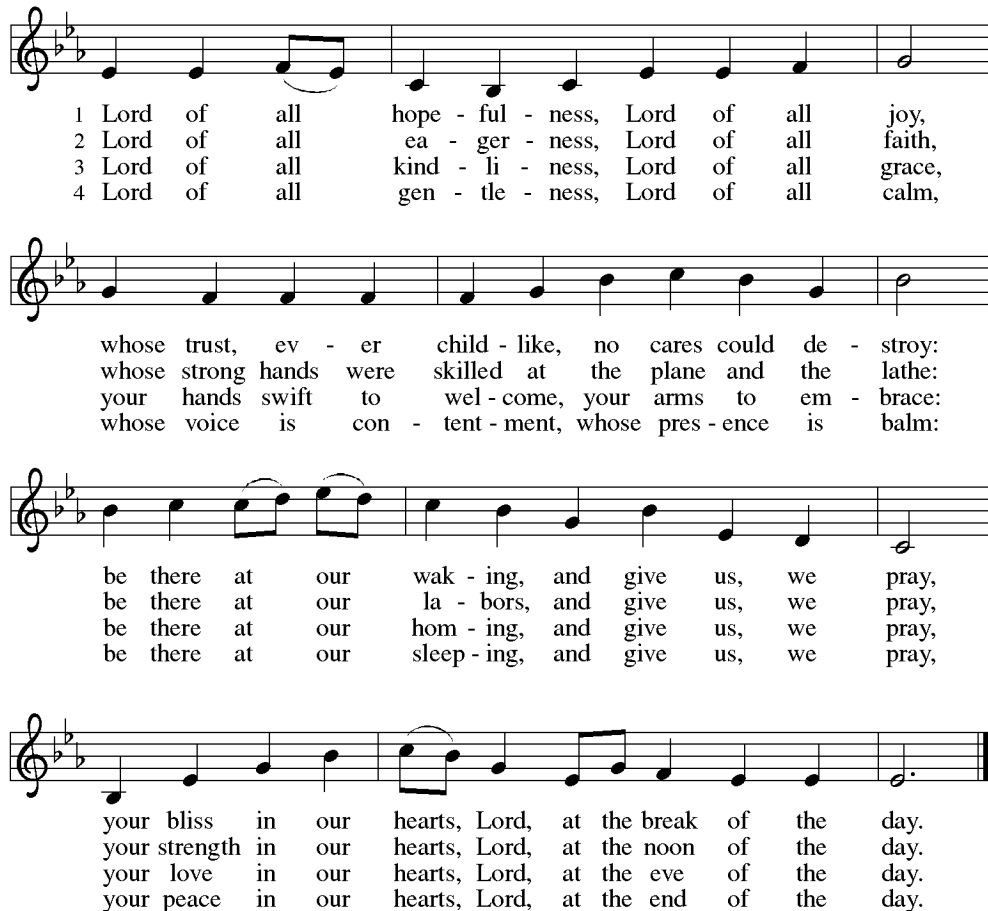
BENEDICTION - *Pastor*

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW 765



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

DISMISSAL - *Assisting Minister*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rejoice! Be Glad

- Todd Kendall

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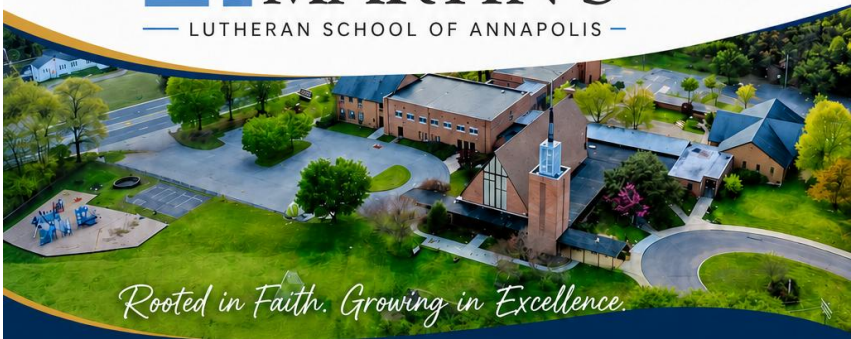
Come Help Us Plant a Meadow!

Unity Gardens awarded us a grant to plant a meadow in front of our woods. From an area that had vines, weeds and poison ivy, church volunteers will install a meadow that will attract pollinators and add beauty. Soil preparation has been completed. We will plant a variety of native perennials on **Saturday, September 26** beginning at 9:00AM. Come join us! Contact Betty Knupp (Knuppster@aol.com) if you would like to be involved in this project.





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 **9:00 AM – 11:00 AM** |  **4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

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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.

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.



Serving in Worship Today	
Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Micah Krey
Director of Music Ministry	Adedotun Olayemi
Media Technician	Sara Wetz
Assisting Minister	Cam Cloeter
Lector	David Moday
Communion Assistants	Judy Houston Bob Drumm
Ushers	Bruce and Susan Herrold Melisa Steffens Molly Michaelson
Altar Set Up	Martha and Glenn Hollenbeck
Communion Cleanup	Michele and Randy Soileau

UPCOMING EVENTS @ ST. MARTIN'S SAVE THE DATE!

Oct. 3

Annapolis Pride Parade
• 10am

Oct. 4

Pet Blessing
• 9am

Oct. 25

Oktoberfest
• Following 10am Service

Nov. 15

Youth Waffle Bar
• 9am

Nov. 22

Family Fun
• 9am in Fellowship

Nov. 29

Advent Surprise
• 9am in Fellowship

Opportunities This Week

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
7:00 am Men's Bible Study
(Double T)

Thursday, September 24, 2026
11:30 am Mid-Day Bible Study
(Double T)
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
(Music Room)

Saturday, September 26, 2026
9:00 am Meadow Planting
(Lot in Front of Woods)

Sunday, September 27, 2026
8:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
9:00 am Breakfast & Devotions
(Art Room)
Sunday School
(Fellowship)
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)