

Date: 09/27/2026 Season: PENTECOST 18 (GREEN)

PASTOR Rev. Orin W. Cummings, PhD

ASSISTING Vickie Donnell

ACOLYTE Alexis Bergin

LECTOR Tom McConnell

CANTOR Alleluia Singers

ORGANIST Marilyn Boston

A/V Drew Bowman, Kenny Lourwood

DISTRIBUTION MINISTERS Vickie Donnell, Tom McConnell, Jean Bardy, Terry Michael

PRELUDE

Seek Ye First arr: Jeffery Honore

Joy Ringers

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

Alex Hover

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In celebration of our baptism, we worship
In the name of God: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

KYRIE

Cantor: Lord, have mer - cy. *All / Todos:* Lord, have mer - cy.
Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.

Cantor: Christ, have mer - cy. *All / Todos:* Christ, have mer - cy.
Cris-to, ten pie - dad. Cris-to, ten pie - dad. Se -

All / Todos: Lord have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.

CANTICAL OF PRAISE

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, O God, al - might - y
ñor Dios, Rey ce - les - tial, Dios Pa - dre to-do-po-de -

Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son,
ro - so. Se - ñor, Hi - jo ú - ni - co, Je - su - cris - to, Se -

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,
ñor Dios, Cor - de - ro de Dios, Hi - jo del Pa - dre; tú que

you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on
qui - tas el pe - ca - do del mun - do, ten pie - dad de no -

us; you take a-way the sins of the world, re-
so-tros; tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do, a-
ceive our prayer; you are seat-ed at the
tien-de nues-tra sú-pli-ca; tú que es-tás sen-ta-do a
right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on
la de-re-cha del Pa-dre, ten pie-dad de no-
us. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
so-tros. Por-que só-lo tú e-res San-to,
you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High,
só-lo tú Se-ñor, só-lo tú Al-tí-si-mo,
Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the
Je-su-cris-to, con el Es-pí-ri-tu San-to en la
glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.
glo-ria de Dios Pa-dre. A-men.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

THE FIRST READING FROM EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die.

²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

As The Water to the Thirsty

Alleluia Singers

THE SECOND READING FROM PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my
presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with
fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will
and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21st Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people
came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing
these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also
ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what

authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Orin W Cummings

SERMON

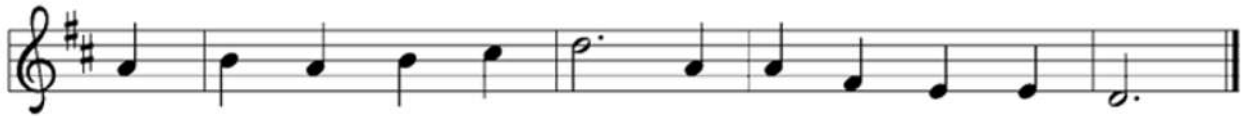
Rev. Orin W Cummings

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 806

O God, My Faithful God

1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing,
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;
with - out whom noth-ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;
give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small.



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with 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 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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need (*especially*). Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you,

And also 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

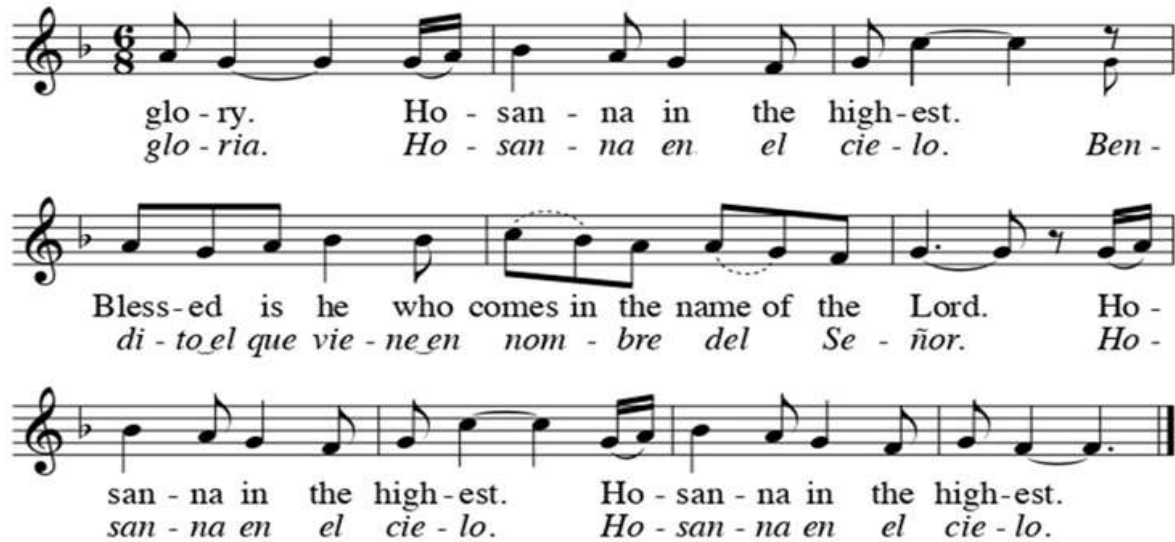
It is indeed right and salutary
that we should at all times and in all places
offer thanks and praise to you,
O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God.
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

San - to, San - to, San - to es el Se - ñor, Dios de U - ni - ver - so.

Heav - en and earth, heav - en and earth are full of your
Lle - nos es - tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
men.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION



The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. It includes parts for Cantor and Assembly/Asamblea. The lyrics are in English and Spanish. The score includes a 'To repeat' section and a 'Last time' section.

Cantor:
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
Cor - de - ro de Dios, que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del

To repeat
world, have mer-cy on us.
mun-do, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros. *Cantor:*

Last time
us.
so-tros. *Cantor:*

Assembly / Asamblea:
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,
de-ro de Dios, que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do,

grant us peace, grant us peace.
da-nos la paz, da-nos la paz.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ELW 531

GATHERING

531

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

The Feast Is Ready



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide.
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
Music: Graham Kendrick
Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY
LM and refrain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ACS 969

Welcome Table



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ACS 1049

Before the Waters Nourished Earth



1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961
Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody
Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, we:
Welcome all to worship;
Make disciples;
Hunger for ministry;
Nurture youth;
Gather resources for growing ministries;
Offer healing and care to all in need.

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

OFFERING

(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)

POSTLUDE