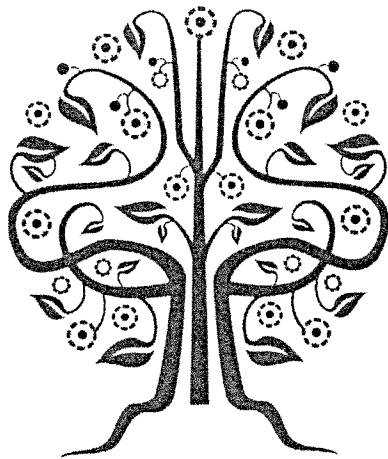
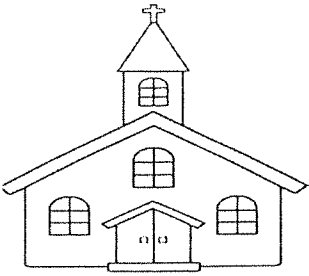




Time after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

10:30 am

Welcome to God's
House ... an area of
sacred space to
honor God.

We ask that you be
respectful of the
Pew, and others
that are here to
worship.

Remember the
Sabbath Day by
keeping it Holy.

Please refrain from
eating or drinking
while inside the
Pew, or leaving
trash behind when
you depart.

*Pastor: Rev. Gabriella
Conklin*

Cantor: Claudio Esquivel

*Music Director: Dr. Vivian
Munn*

Organist: Marilyn Martin

First Lutheran Church
302 S. Sugar Rd
Edinburg, Tx
78539

Office Hour:
Tuesday-Friday
10 AM-3 PM

Welcome to First Lutheran Church, Edinburg, Texas on this sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us. First Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

As Lutherans, we confess our belief that the **Holy Eucharist** (also called the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion) is the place where Our Lord Jesus is truly present (*real presence*). All people, who believe in Christ and share our beliefs concerning this sacrament, are invited and encouraged to participate in the Eucharist. This includes members of other Lutheran churches and members of other denominations. Young children are also invited to share in this celebration and may receive the sacrament if they, with their families, feel it is appropriate. Children and people who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to receive a blessing. Those unable to partake of the wine be assured that the Church affirms our Lord's presence in the bread alone.

FIRST TIME VISITORS — Please sign and include contact information on the guest book located between the double doors at the front of the Narthex. We hope that you worship with us again. If you have any questions about First Lutheran Church, please call the office at 956.383.2647.

**Mission Statement: Grace in Action, Mindful of a Changing
World, We Seek ALL People.**

Please remember to
TURN OFF OR SILENCE ELECTRONIC DEVICES
before service begins.
We appreciate your help in minimizing any distractions during service.
Thank you!

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

STAND

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

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.**

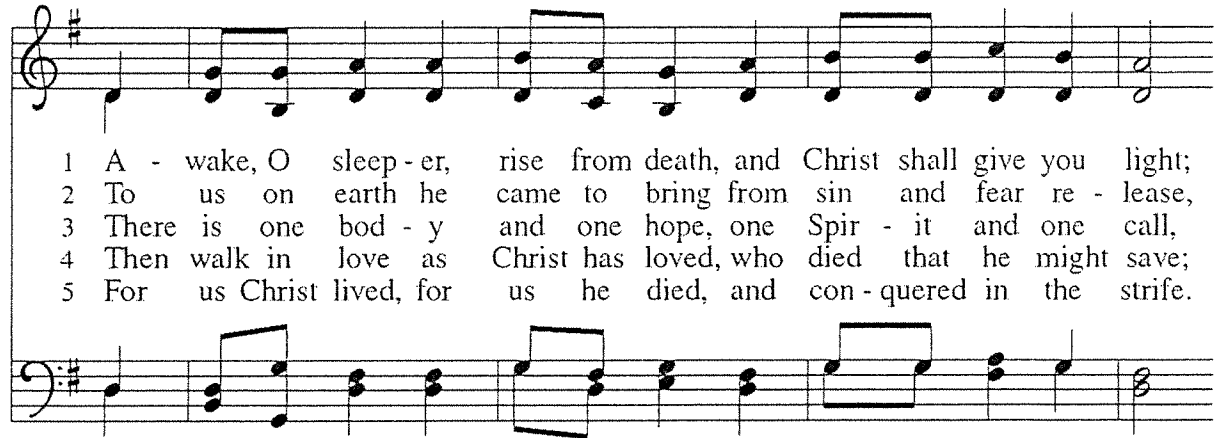
Amen.

Hear this good news:

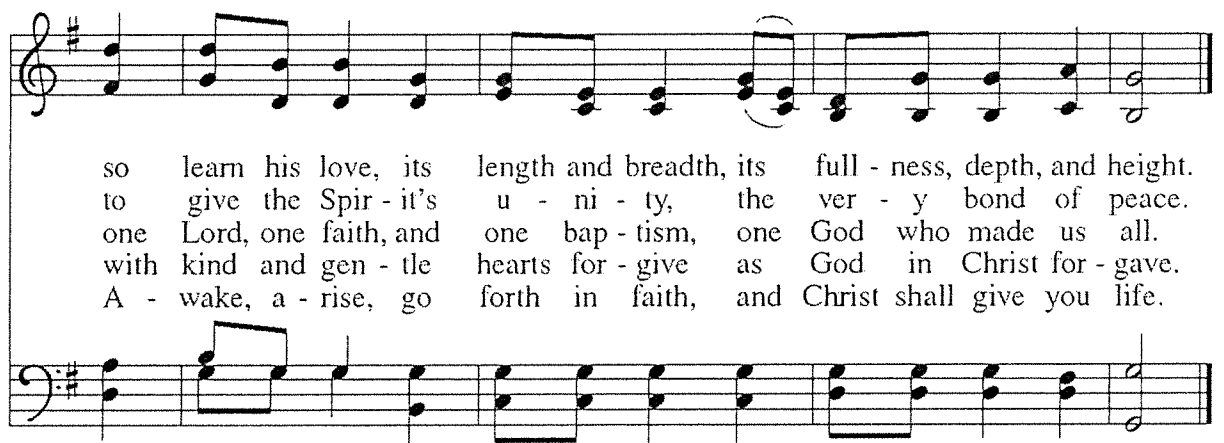
We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *ELW 452 Awake, o Sleeper, rise from Death*



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



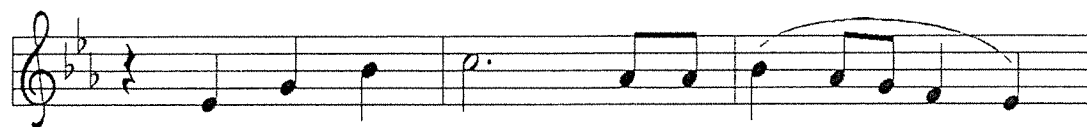
so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God in the high -



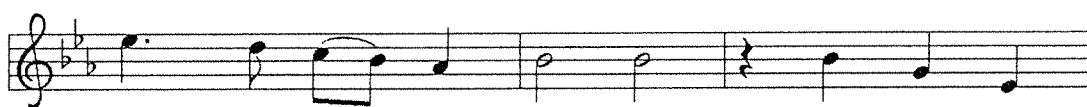
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



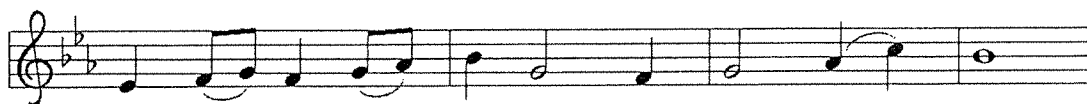
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

+ LITURGY OF THE WORD +

FIRST READING - Genesis 50:15-21

SIT After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

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 Joseph, 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

PSALM 103:1-13

- ¹ Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's ¹ holy name.
- ² **Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,**
and forget not ¹ all God's benefits—
- ³ who forgives ¹ all your sins
and heals all ¹ your diseases;
- ⁴ **who redeems your life ¹ from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast ¹ love and mercy; R
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires ¹ with good things
so that your youth is renewed ¹ like an eagle's.
- ⁶ **O LORD, you provide ¹ vindication**
and justice for all who ¹ are oppressed.
- ⁷ You made known your ¹ ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- ¹ dren of Israel.
-] ⁸ **LORD, you are full of compas- ¹ sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love; R
- ⁹ you will not al- ¹ ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- ¹ ger forever.
- ¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according ¹ to our sins,**
nor repaid us according to ¹ our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high a- ¹ bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for ¹ those who fear you.
- ¹² **As far as the east is ¹ from the west,**
so far have you removed our transgres- ¹ sions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion ¹ for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear ¹ you, O LORD. **R**

SECOND READING - Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

STAND

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.

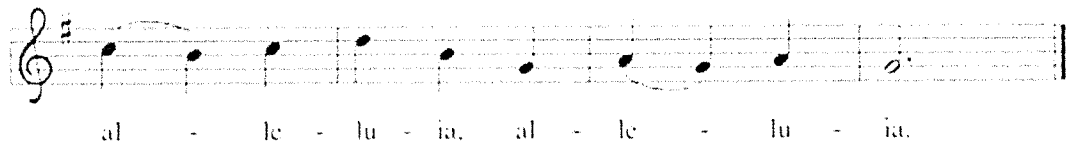
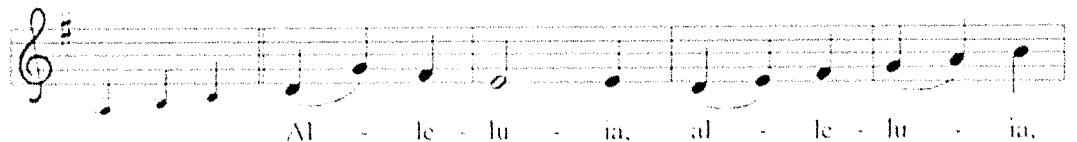
⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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.

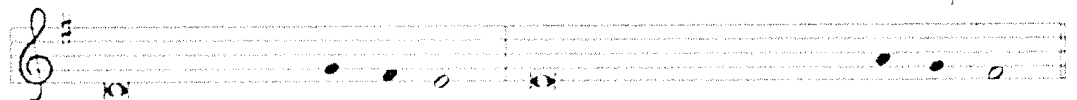
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat all but



SIT The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.
STAND **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING - Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? 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 accounts 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.”

Brief Silence.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Together as a family of
faith we lift our joys,
concerns, and
intercessions to God.*

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 606 Our Father, We Have Wandered

APOSTLE'S 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.

*The peace our LORD is
shared throughout the
gathered assembly*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

SIT

STAND

*We offer to God the gifts
of bread and wine, our
monetary gifts for the
ministry of the Church in
the world, and the gift of
our own lives.*

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Raise up leaders to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember all those who have gone before us. 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.

The Great Thanksgiving is understood as an act of praise and thanksgiving to the Father. Following Jewish customs, the emerging Christian liturgies blessed God (that is, thanked him) for his works of kindness and love

PEACE

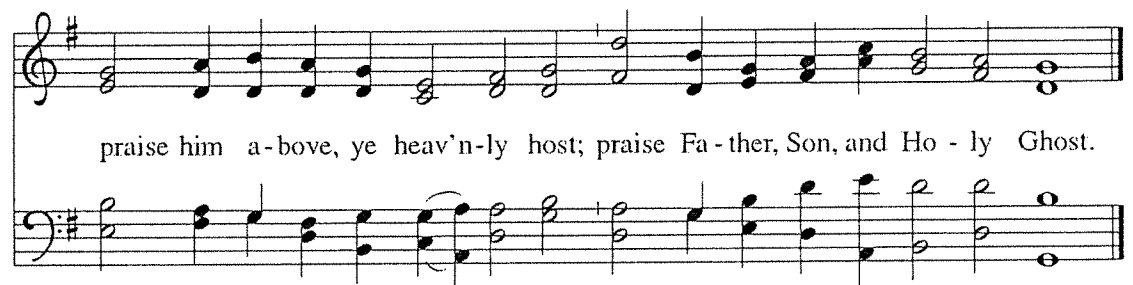
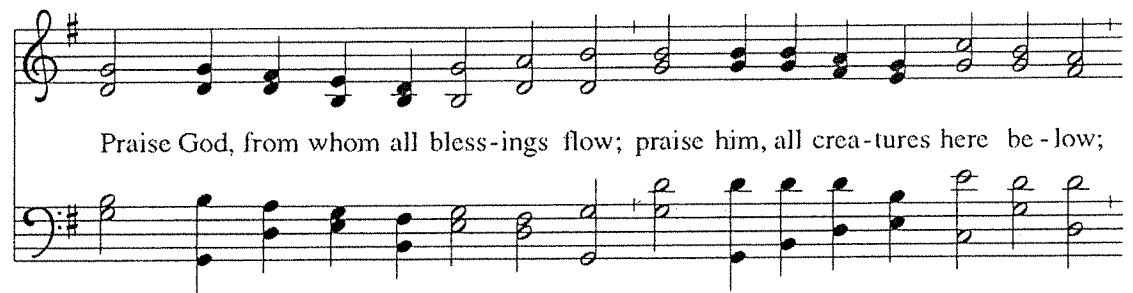
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ LITURGY OF THE MEAL +

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*



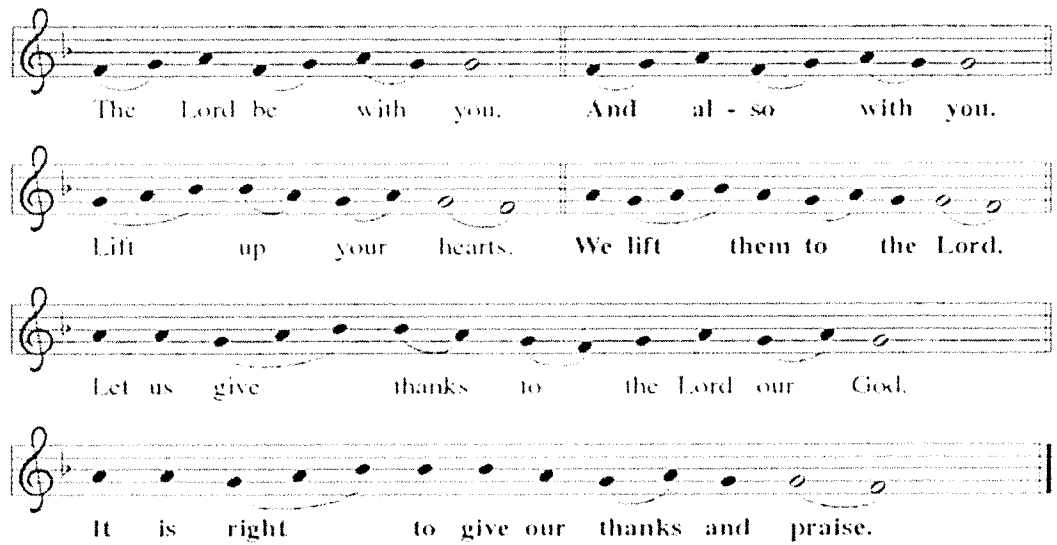
OFFERING PRAYER

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 Sanctus is a series of acclamations based on the angels' cry which accompanied Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3 also Psalm 118:26) and with which the people greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on his way to his sacrificial death, Mark 11:9-10.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

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

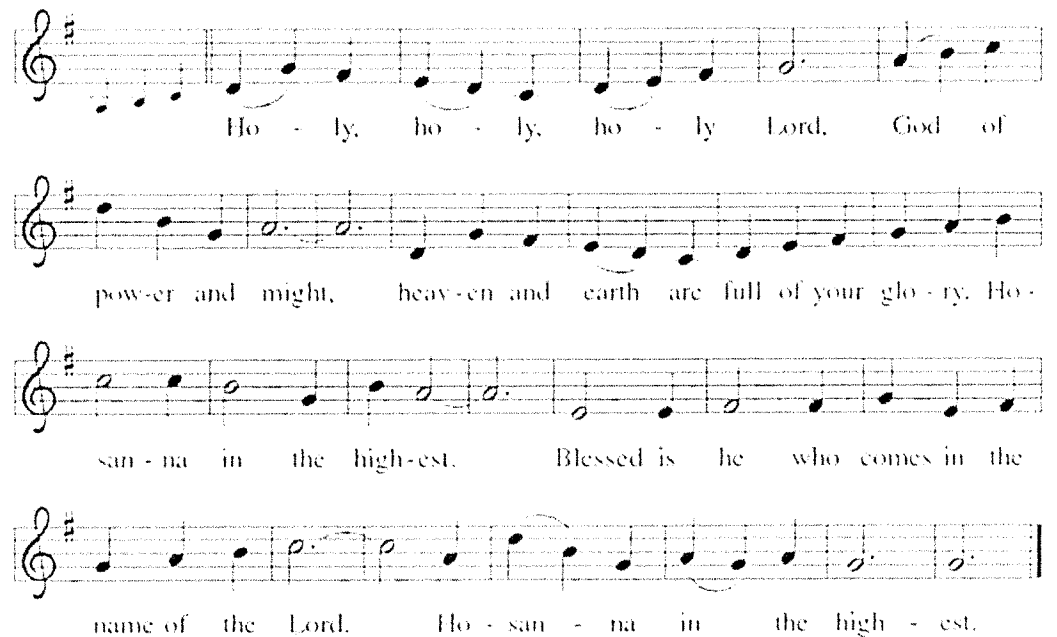
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God, You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

*The bread is broken in
silence before the congregation
is invited to the
table to partake of the
holy meal*

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

SIT LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST

**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.**

*Those who wish to receive
the Eucharist may come
to the chancel by way of
the center aisle.*

*After receiving the ele-
ments the communicant
responds: **AMEN.***

*The sign of the cross is
made before and after
receiving the elements.*

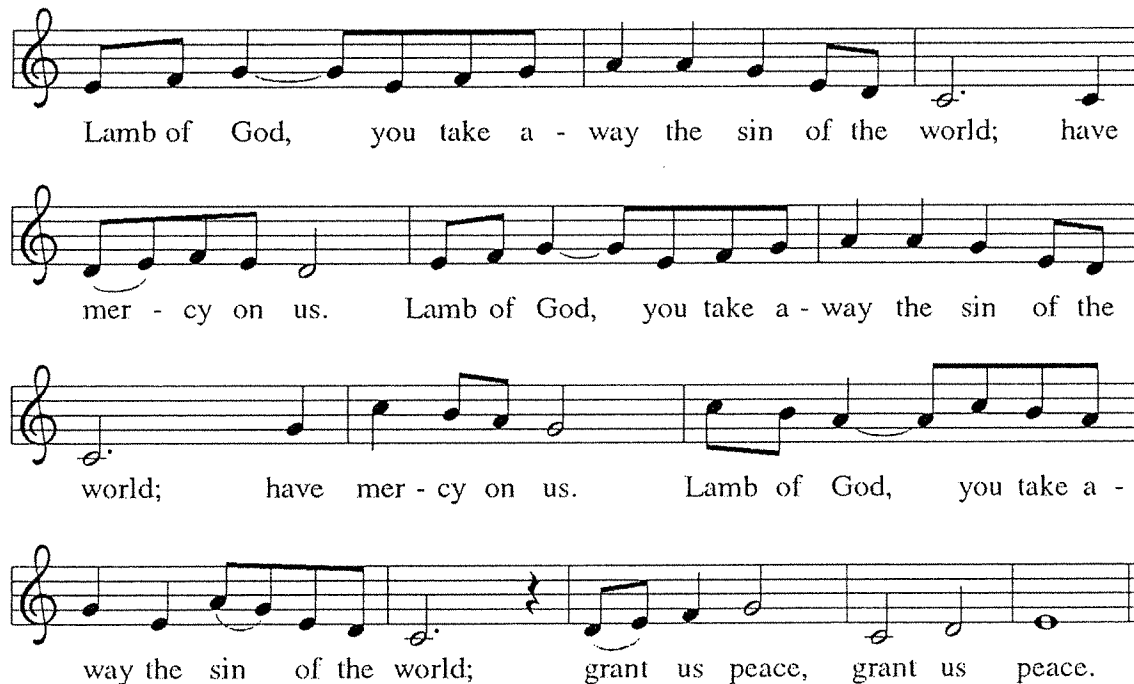
FRACTION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

AGNUS DEI

STAND



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.

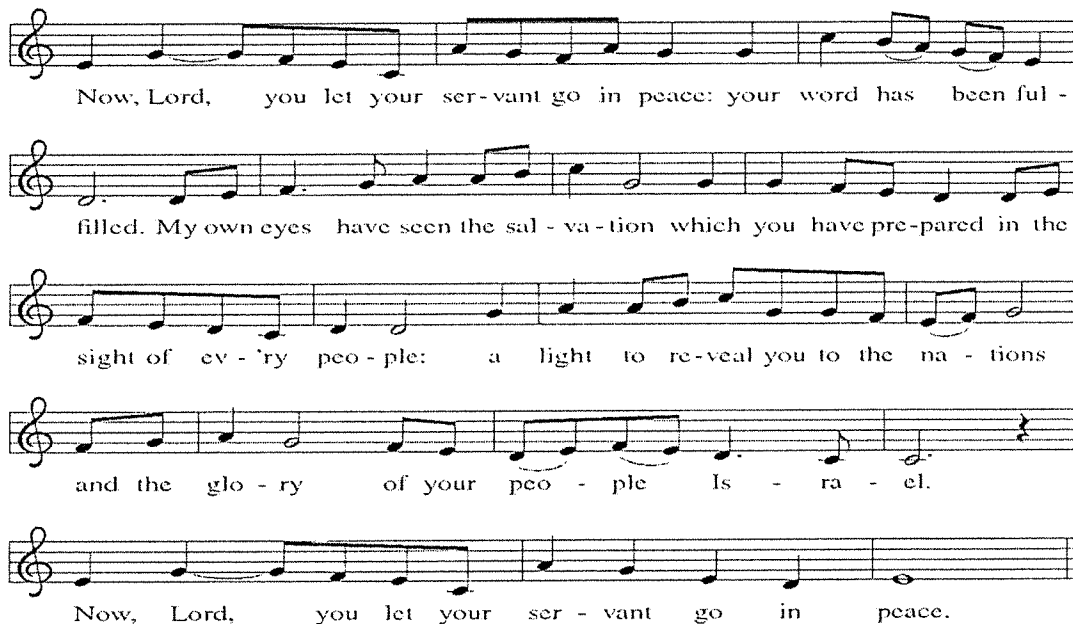
**COMMUNION HYMN ELW 359 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*
ELW 676 *Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak***

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

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 +

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SIT
STAND

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL HYMN *ELW 835 All creatures, worship God Most High*

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to **God**.

POSTLUDE