

A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:30 AND 11:00 AM

MAY 18, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

PRELUDE “LORD, SEND US FORTH” MOKLEBUST **BELL CHOIR**

Stand or remain seated

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name, Father ✙ Son ✙ Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P 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 perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. 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 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 sins. 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, Father ✙ Son ✙ Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN**“Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”**

Vss. 1 & 4

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -

ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:
per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: “Al - le - lu - ia!”

“Al - le - lu - ia!” Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,
Al - le - lu - ia!” To God the Fa - ther, God the

pow’rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:
Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:

“Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!” Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

C And is also with you.



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ is with you always.

C **And is also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C **O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sit

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon,

who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 148

Read Responsively

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

A ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

C ²**Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

A ³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

C ⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

A ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

C ⁶**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

A ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

C ⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

A ⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

C ¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

A ¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the
world;

C ¹²**young men and maidens, old and young together.**

A ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

C ¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all
faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.
Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RECOGNITION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CHILDREN

ERIN WELCH, MARCY LAYNE, STACY BOLZENIUS, LAURA BUNCH



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 13th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN

SPECIAL MUSIC

"COME, JESUS, COME"

MCWHIRTER

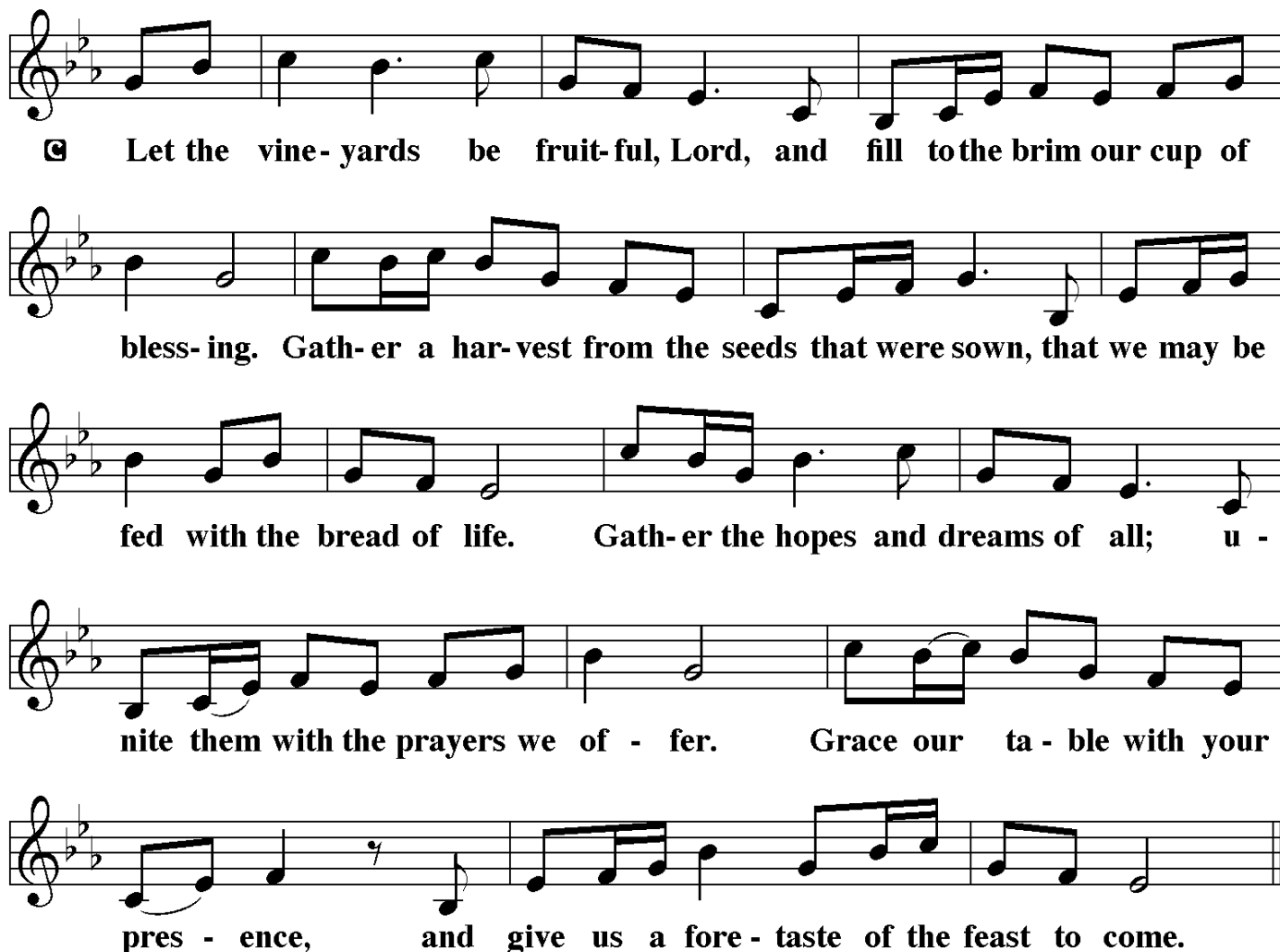
COURTNEY PITTMAN AND MARCY LAYNE

TO SUPPORT ADVENT'S MINISTRIES, POINT CAMERA HERE

OFFERING BROUGHT FORWARD



OFFERTORY



C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

NATALIE WELCH, KATIE DEETER, RIVER PITTMAN, CHARLIE PFORSICH

APOSTLES' CREED

A *Christians, what do we believe?*

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Enrich and grant your wisdom to our Bishops Suzanne and Elizabeth. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. We pray for an end to all war. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace. Bring wisdom and strength to people and organizations who advocate for the needs of neighbors. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war. Welcome into your kingdom those who have been killed and protect those who are living in the valley of death, because of wars. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. We pray aloud and silently for those in need of healing; family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know by name only (*leave a time of silence for people to name those for whom they pray*). Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Pour wisdom and blessings upon our graduates and those who have led our Sunday School and those who participated as learners. May your presence in their lives encourage them to continue to explore, learn and search. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

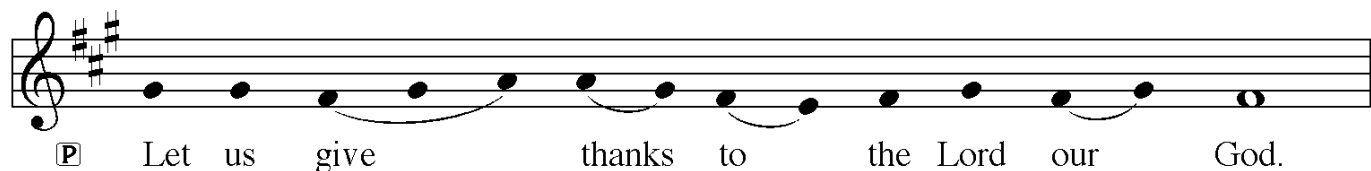
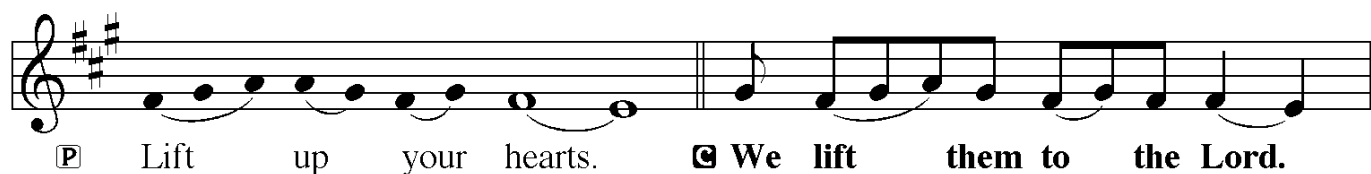
A We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

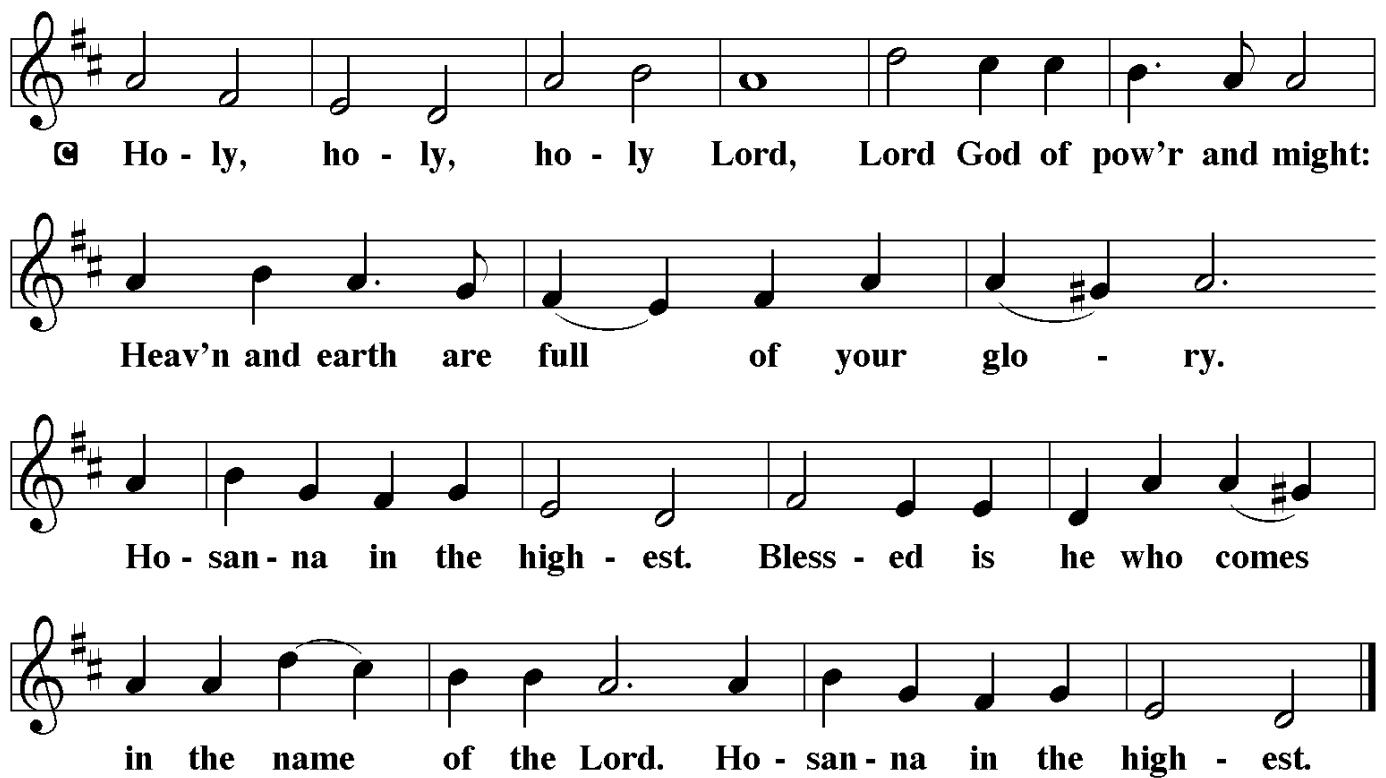
A We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is indeed right, and 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.



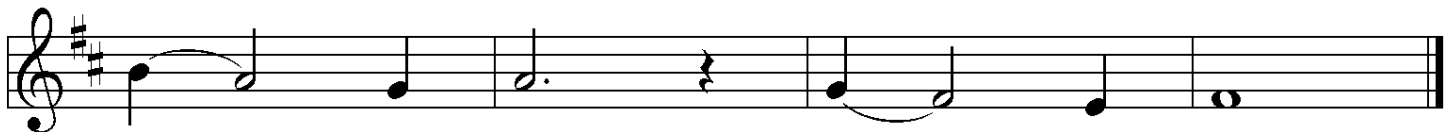
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

DISTRIBUTION

Invitation to the Lord's Table – Believing in the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, this family of faith practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion when they are worshipping with us.

HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

This communion bread is free from: Gluten, Dairy, Nuts, Egg and Yeast.

Grape juice is available by request at the chancel rail.

After receiving the elements, you may return to your seats.

*Please place your empty communion cup in the baskets
provided on the first row of chairs.*

***If you would like to receive communion at your seat,
please let an usher know.***

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C **Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

- P 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.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES”

VSS. 1 – 3



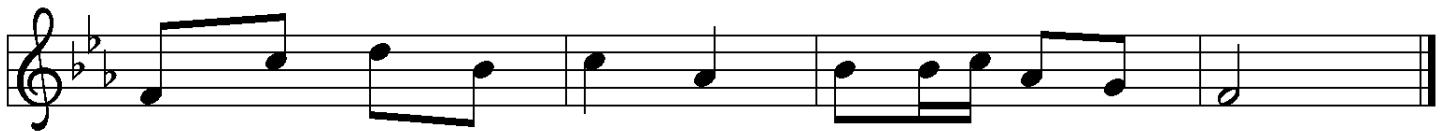
1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

DEDICATION OF BAPTISMAL BOWL

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others, and Make Disciples.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
ACOLYTE		SAM WITTEN
ASSISTING MINISTER	BRENT WELCH	CRAIG FORSYTH
PASTOR	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN	

The Altar Flowers are given by Jane and Roy Hart to the glory of God and in memory of their mothers, Gene Hart and Phyllis Fundermark.



Please check the 2025 Altar Flower Chart located above the usher stand to order flowers in honor of someone special or celebrating special occasions. Price is \$25.00 per vase.