

**February 5, 2023 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Streaming Worship Service**  
**Messiah Lutheran Church, Amherst, NH**

**PRELUDE —**

**WELCOME**



**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**One:** If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**All: Amen.**

**One:** Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**One:** Most merciful God,

**All: have mercy on us.**

**We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we might live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

**One:** With joy I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all you sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God!**



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

## KYRIE

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

### Refrain

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

# NOW THE FEAST

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

## Verse 1

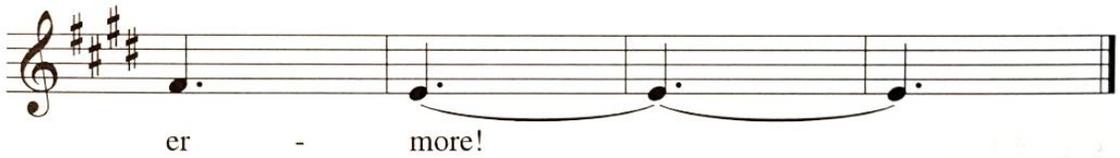
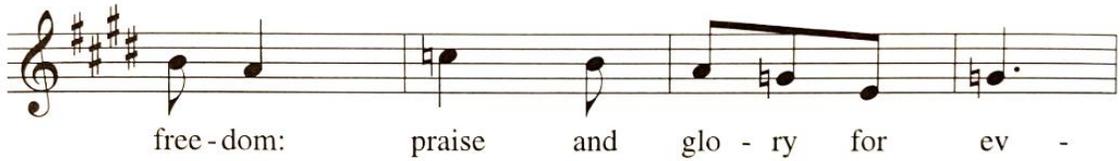
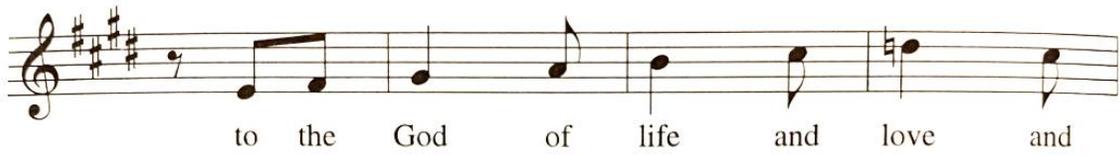
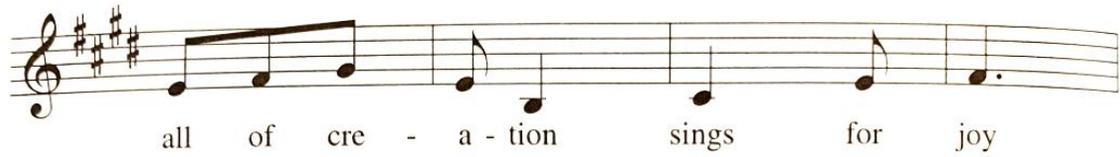
*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God.

*to Refrain*

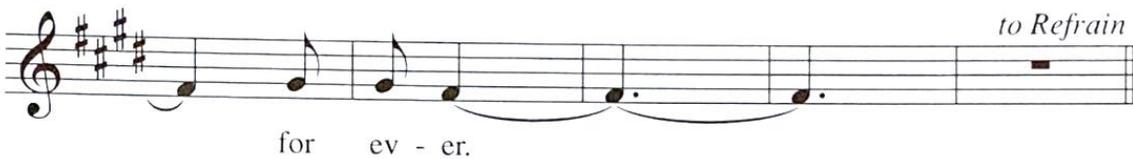
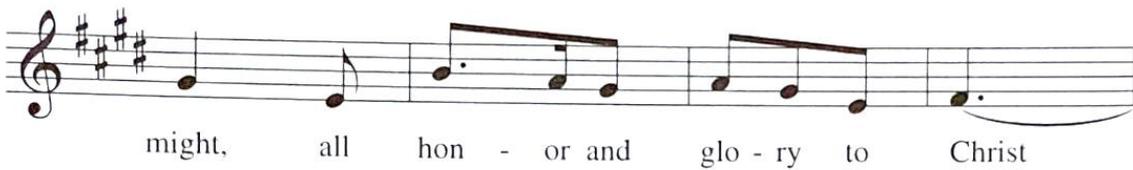
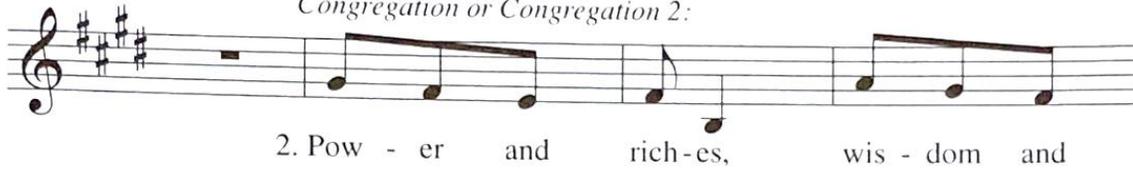
## Refrain

*Congregation:*



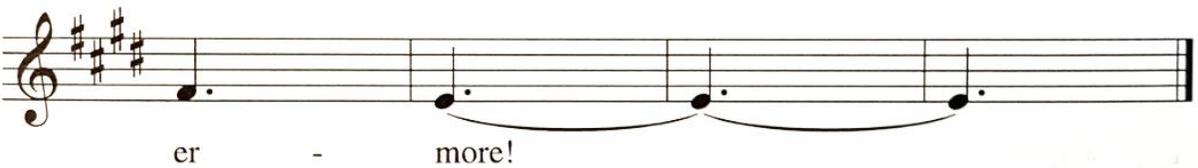
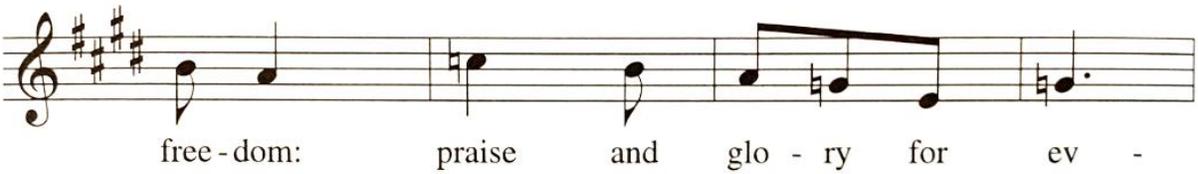
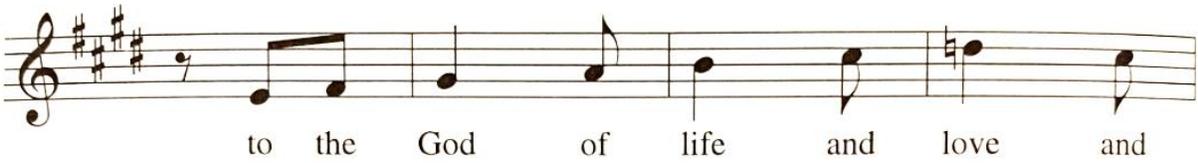
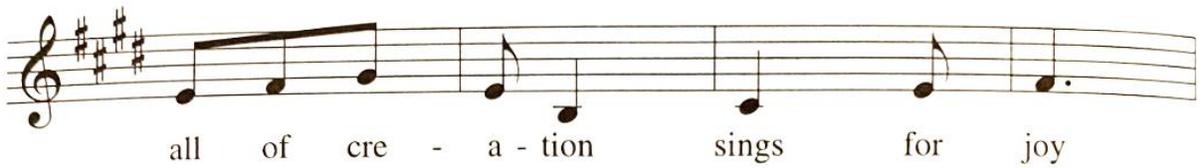
## Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*



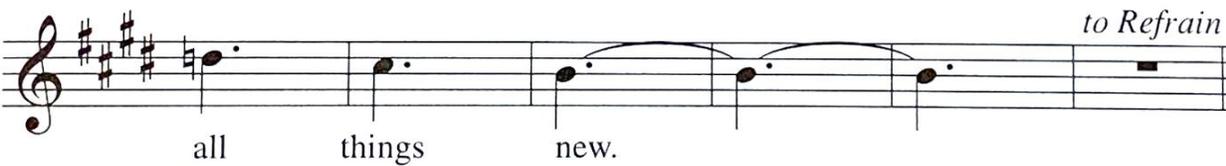
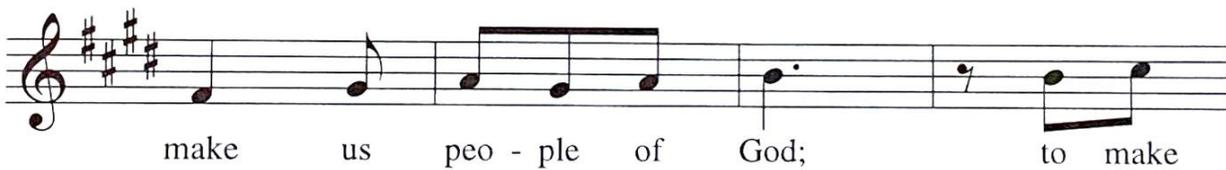
## Refrain

*Congregation:*



## Verse 3

*Congregation:*



## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

## SALUTATION

*Presider:* *Congregation:*

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

*a brief silence*

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

A reading from Isaiah the 58<sup>th</sup> chapter:

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
<sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
<sup>3</sup>"Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
<sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
  
<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
<sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY (spoken or chanted) Psalm 112:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD  
and have great delight in | God's commandments!  
<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**  
**the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**  
<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be | in their house,  
and their righteousness will | last forever.  
<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**  
**the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.**  
<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending  
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.  
<sup>6</sup>**For they will nev- | er be shaken;**  
**the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**  
<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

**<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and I will not shrink,  
until they see their desire up- I on their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands I fast forever;

they will hold up their I head with honor.

**<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and I pine away;**

**the desires of the wick- I ed will perish.**

## SECOND LESSON

A reading from 1 Corinthians 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter:

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.]

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL VERSE**

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**



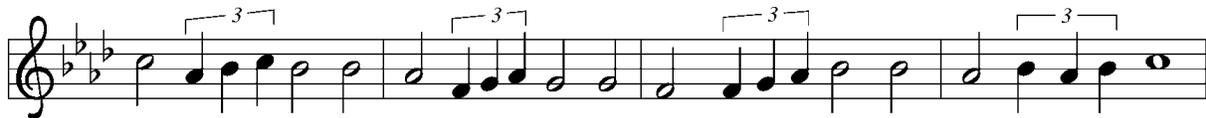
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with  
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 mouths to speak thy holy name.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 May the light which thou dost send  
 fill our songs with alleluias,  
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 to thee laud and honor be.  
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
 glory, glory be to thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever  
 praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976  
 Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944  
 Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

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## CREED

One: Together we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed:

**All: 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 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

Let us pray:

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church,  
the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice (*injustice such as systemic racism, church sanction of colonialism, church protection of sexual abusers may be named*).

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters (*especially*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way (*especially*) Claudette Briere, Steve Kasmar, George Waghorn, Eric, Anika DiVirgilio, Rita, Steve Kasmar, Krista Seckinger, Christine Glass, DelRe Family, Kate, The Demello Family, Norm and Polly Cote, Pastor Don Blume, Doug Pulfer, Bob Conway, Ed Costa, Jeanette Renna, Judy Aunio and the family and friends of Kauko.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uniting God, unite this assembly in its shared mission and ministry for the sake of the gospel with AMMPARO, the ELCA congregations of the New Hampshire conference, Habitat for Humanity, Ash Street Shelter, Share, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire, and others. Highlight ways we can better work together and give us patience to work through disagreement, help us be open and gracious towards new partnership opportunities in Southern New Hampshire.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As a group from the New England Synod ventures to Israel, Palestine and Jordan we pray for your protection. Be with Ed and Trudi Costa, Pastor Kim Hester and Linda Gillett from Christ the King and all the others in the group. Help them accompany the people they meet, be open to the stirrings of your holy spirit and grow in ways that edify the church and bring glory to you. We anticipate a joyful return after a faith-changing adventure.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Be with Judy Aunio and her family and all of her friends as we grieve the unexpected death of Kauko. Comfort us all with the resurrection hope. The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

**Refrain**  
*Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

**Verses**



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
*to Refrain*  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

One: Let us pray:

Merciful God,

All: everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features alternating parts for the Presider and the Congregation. The lyrics are: "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 God thanks and praise."

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And also with

*Presider:* you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

*Presider:* lift them to the Lord. *Congregation:* Let us give

*Congregation:* thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

*Freely*  
*Presider:*

It is our duty and de-light that we should everywhere and always offer

thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...

*Advent 1&2:* whose coming the prophets and John the Baptist  
announced with great joy,

*Advent 3&4:* who is your promised light which no night can  
overcome,

*Christmas:* who is your word made flesh among us,

*Epiphany:* who is your light made manifest to all the nations,

*Lent:* who bids us turn to you and prepare for the Páschal  
feast,

*Easter:* who by his death on the cross and glorious  
resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death  
and gave life to all creation,

*Pentecost:* and the Spirit, whom you poured out upon the  
Church and your people:

*Holy Trinity:* who with you and the Holy Spirit is worshiped  
and glorified, one God, Holy and Eternal,

*Sundays after  
Pentecost:* who calls us to follow his way of humble service  
and love,

*All Saints:* to whom \_\_\_\_\_ and all the saints and martyrs  
bore witness with their lives,

*Christ the King:* whose rule is gentle and whose way is peace,

*(Insert proper preface here)*

...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the

host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - - end - ing

*in rhythm* *To Holy, Holy*

hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOLY

*Congregation:*



The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 6/8 time. The melody consists of five lines of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first line of music is marked 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly; ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!'.

Ho - ly; ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

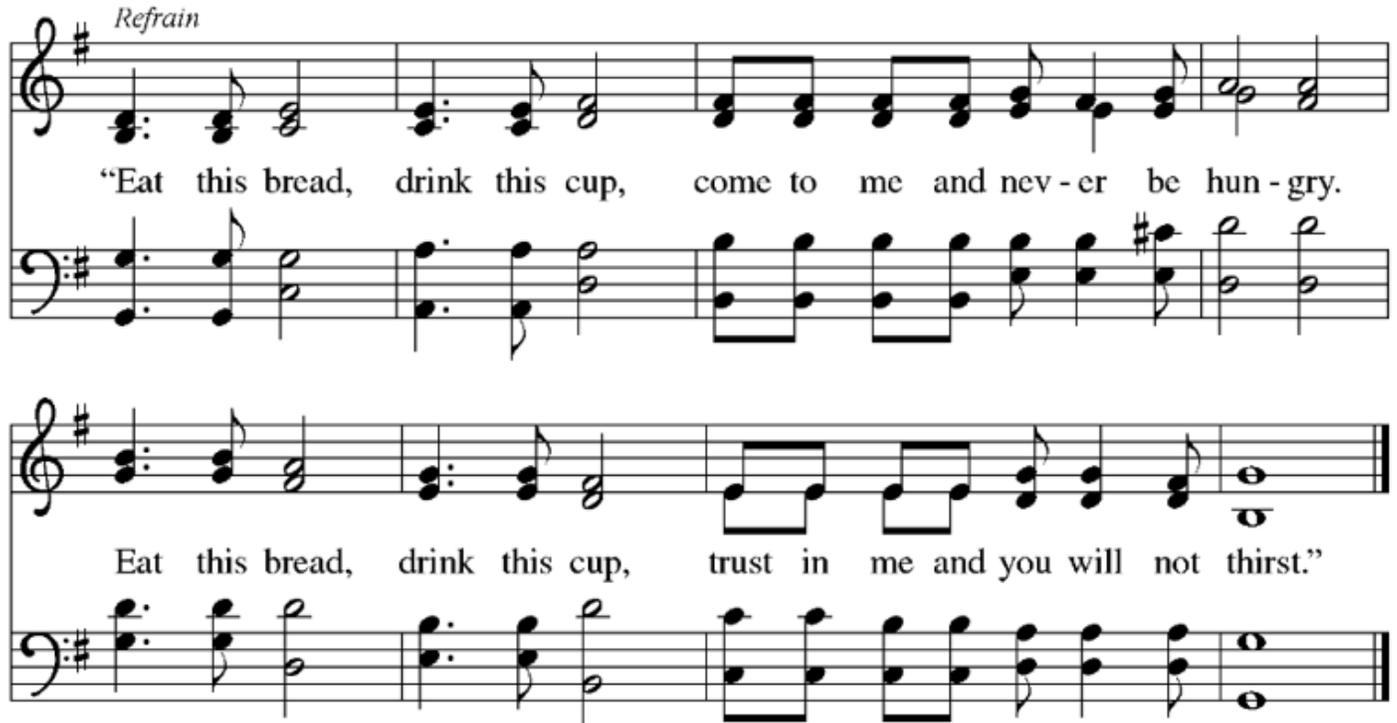
One: Together we pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

**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. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION

*Refrain*



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com).  
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## POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and ✠ keep you in his grace. Amen.

# THANKS BE TO YOU

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray, we thank you God that you make us into that which we eat—the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Use us to be his hands and feet in this world that you so loved.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

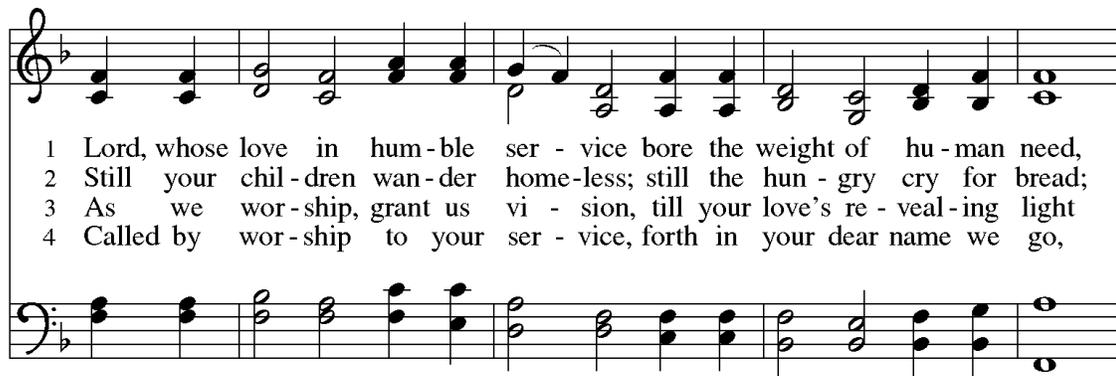
### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

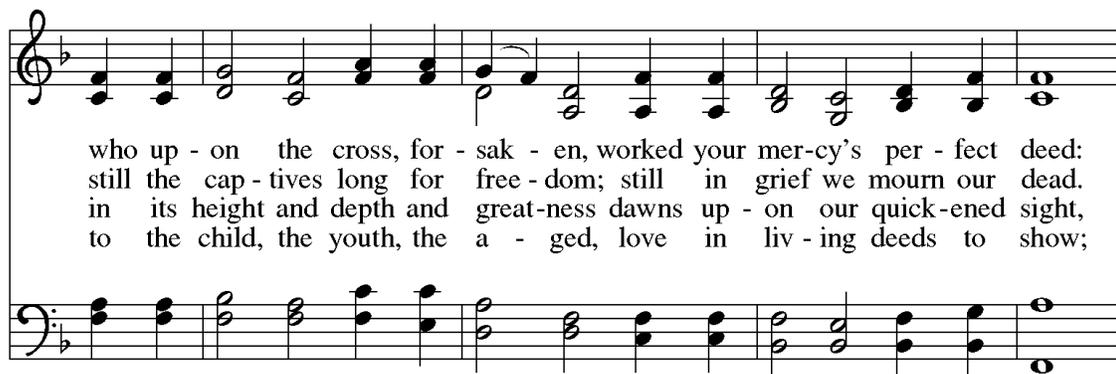
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you his peace.

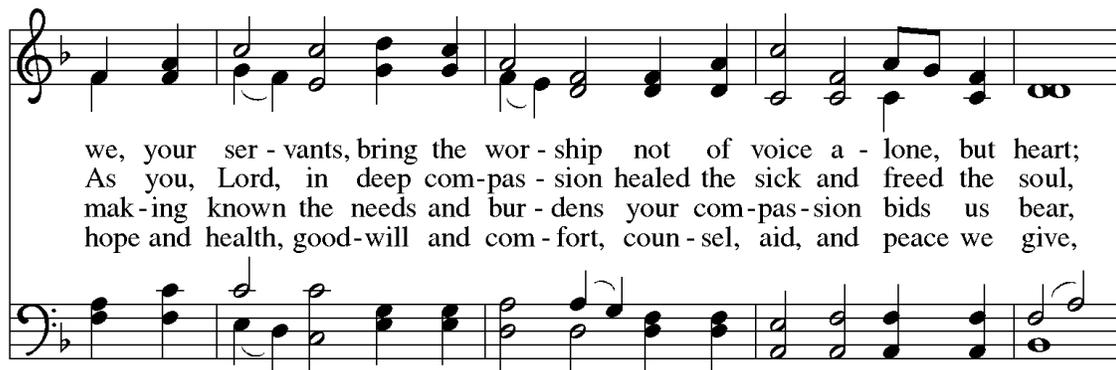
**Amen.**



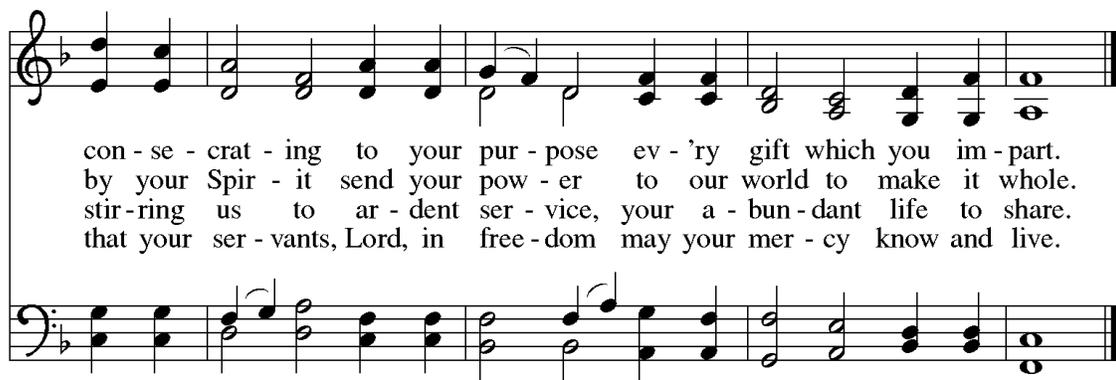
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,  
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light  
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:  
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
 in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,  
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,  
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

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Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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