



September 17, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

GATHERING

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

Congregation reads **BOLD**

Bell

Announcements

Prelude: *Kyrie Eleison; Glory to you, God; Gospel Acclamation*

-from All Creation Sings, Holy Communion, Setting 12

All who are able are invited to stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

Gathering Song

In Thee Is Gladness



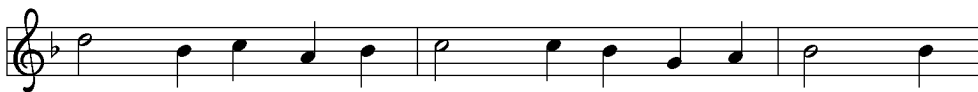
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ning to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



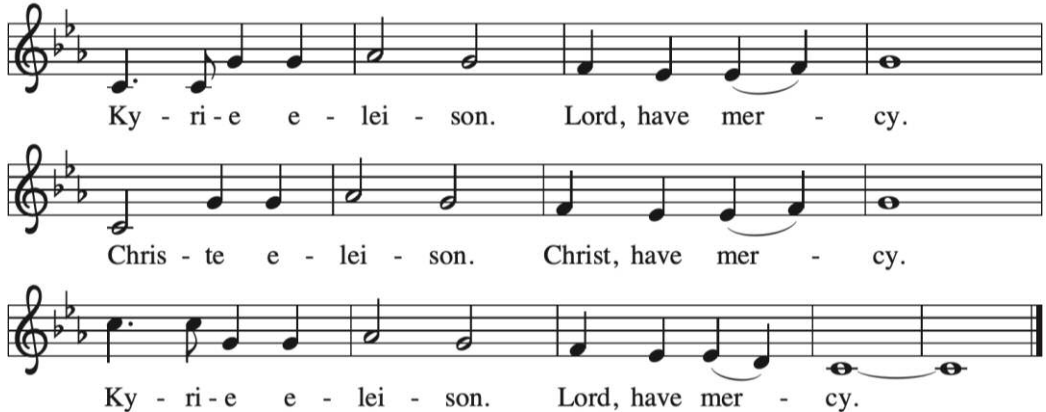
to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Greeting

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

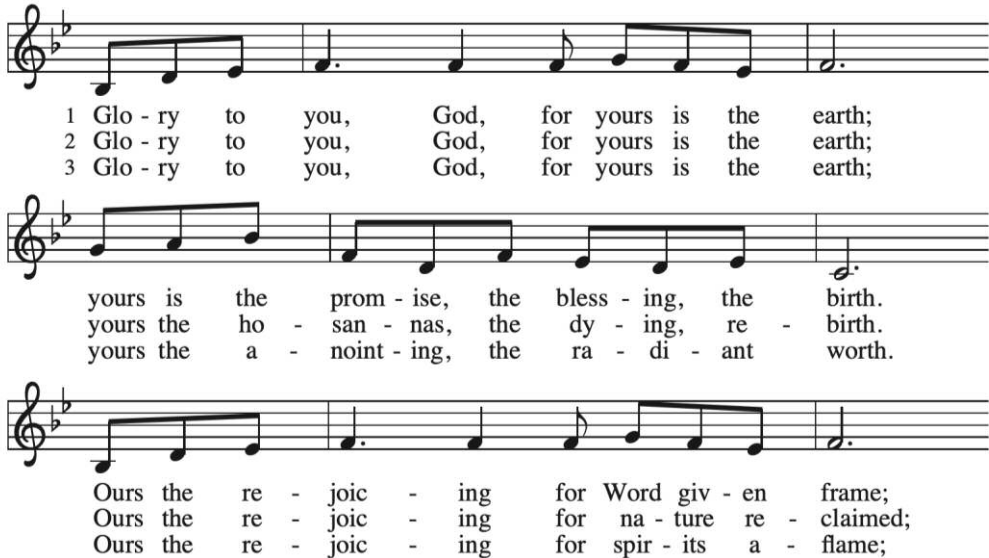
And also with you.

Kyrie



Musical notation for the Kyrie, consisting of three staves of music in a G minor key signature. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy. Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise



Musical notation for the Hymn of Praise, consisting of three staves of music in a G minor key signature. The lyrics are: 1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth. yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth. yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth. Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame; Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed; Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

WORD

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

All may be seated

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

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.

¹⁵Realizing 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?" ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even 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. ²¹So 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: Psalm 103:1-13 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s | holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God’s benefits—**

³who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle’s.

⁶**O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;**

⁹you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD.

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.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those 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. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

⁵Some 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. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why 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. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God. *The Word of the Lord.*


Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

Repeat alleluia

Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: 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.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus 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. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” *The Gospel of the Lord.*

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

Children’s Sermon

Presentation of Bibles

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Forgive Your People

Perdona a tu pueblo



Per - do - na_a tu pue - blo, Se - ñor. Per -
For - give your . . . peo - ple, O Lord. For -



do - na_a tu pue - blo, per - dó - na - le, Se - ñor.
give your . . . peo - ple, for - give . . . us, O Lord.



1 Por e - sos hie - rros que te cla - va -
2 For cold and cru - el nails that im - pale
3 For all the dead - ly blows that have -
4 For bear - ing all our wounds, we a - dore
4 May your whole life out - poured now flow through



ron, por las es - pi - nas que te pun -
you, for rag - ged rings of thorns that as -
you, for all the bit - ter words that still
you. Show us your feet, your hands, we im -
us, and may your death re - store and re -



za - ron, per - dó - na - le, Se - ñor.
sail you, for - give . . . us, O Lord.
scorn you, for - give . . . us, O Lord.
plore you. For - give . . . us, O Lord.
new us. For - give . . . us, O Lord.

2 *Por tus sangrientas llagas tan crueles, por los insultos y por las hieles, perdónale, Señor.* 3 *Por tus heridas de pies y manos, por los azotes tan inhumanos, perdónale, Señor.*

4 *Por la abertura de tu costado, por haber muerto abandonado, perdónale, Señor.*

Text: Anonymous; English text Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
Music: PERDONA A TU PUEBLO, Anonymous
English text © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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Apostles' Creed

In the words of the Apostles' Creed, let us confess our faith:

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way *especially Helen, Susan, Gladys, Kim, Vanessa, Dean, Lester, Nat, Bob, Lori, Lisa, Carol, Richard, Kim, Bethany, Jon, Barry, Rumpun, Ted, Nancy, Pam, Chris, Donna.* Protect all who cry out for mercy. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *especially Lynn, Carolyn, Oliver, Kim, Ben, Diane, Jane, Radelle.* Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever, *especially Mark & Jennifer, Paul & Kimberly, Andrew & Stacy, Daniel & Stephany, Chris & Julie, Cedella & Paul, Keith & Judy.* Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring congregations. May your light shine brightly for all, sharing in your love and your peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray especially for St. John, Slatington, and their pastor, Halle Kluever. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Peace— *Please share the peace in any manner comfortable to you.*
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering: (8:00) *Holy, Holy, Holy; Lamb of God; At Last, Lord*
(10:30) *Ten Thousand Reasons*

-from All Creation Sings
-by Matt Redman and Jonas Myria

All who are able are invited to stand

Take My Life, That I May Be

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the next four verses. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty,
**all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us
into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

[8:00 service continues on page 14 with the Lord's Prayer]

MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.
All may be seated*

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, 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:

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

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody starts on a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics 'Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by quarter notes D5, E5, and F#5. The lyrics 'Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.' are written below the staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

[8:00 service continues here]

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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.

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.

[8:00 service continues on page 18 with the Sending]

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Please be seated

Communion



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.

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

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

The Distribution Communion Hymns

Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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All who are able, please stand

After all have returned to their places:

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

Amen.

Canticle

At Last, Lord *Ahora, Señor*



A - ho - ra, Se - ñor, se - gún tu pro - me - sa,
At last, Lord, your word of prom - ise ful - fill - ing,



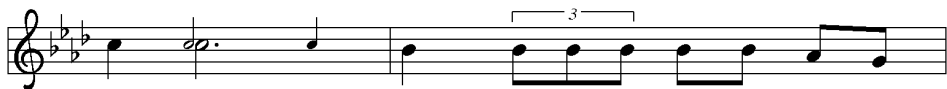
pue - des de - jar a tu sier - vo ir - se en paz.
you let your ser - vant go forth in free - dom and peace.



Por - que mis o - jos han vis - to a tu Sal - va - dor,
With my own eyes I have seen the sal - va - tion



a quien has pre - sen - ta - do an - te to - dos los
you have pre - pared . . . in the sight of all of the



pue - blos: luz pa - ra a - lum - brar a las na -
peo - ples: a light that will re - veal you to the



cio - nes y glo - ria de tu pue - blo Is - ra - el.
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Music: Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Text and music © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer After Communion

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

[8:00 service continues here]

SENDING

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

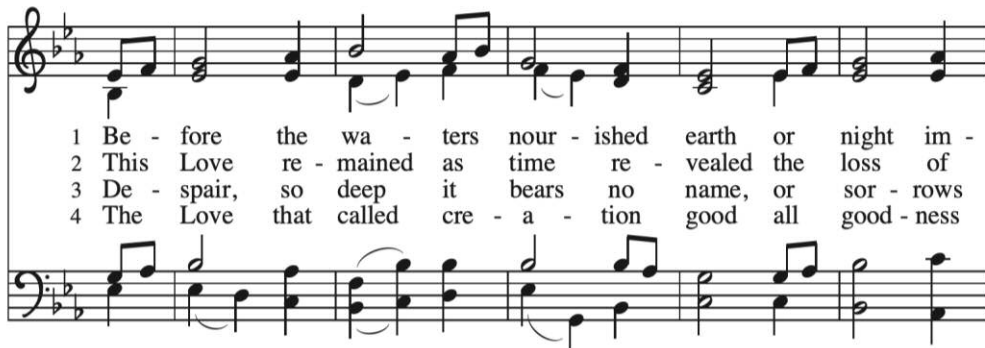
Blessing

The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

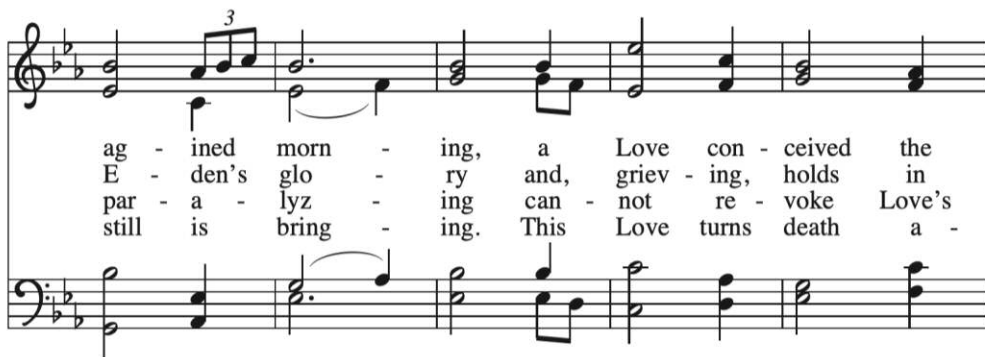
Amen.

Closing Hymn

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

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Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty*

-by John B. Dykes, setting by David Maxwell

The Lord's Table at Jordan Church is an open table. If you are a baptized Christian of any church, believe in the Lord's presence in the sacrament and have received the sacrament before, you are welcome to receive with us. If you are not able to receive, please come forward for a pastoral blessing. To come forward, simply follow the direction of the ushers.

Distribution method is noted in the order for worship.

ALTAR DISTRIBUTION: As you come forward, please take an empty cup with you to the altar rail. If you choose not to consume wine, grape juice is available. Come to the altar rail without a glass and a communion assistant will offer you the grape juice in a pre-filled glass.

INTINCTION DISTRIBUTION: Come forward and receive a wafer. Then dip it into either the wine (the cup in the center of the bread plate) or the grape juice (in the separate cup held by the second assistant). If you want additional time at the altar, please step to center of the altar rail out of the flow of other worshippers. You are invited to kneel if you wish.

Gluten-free wafers are available – please indicate your need to the communion assistant.

You are asked to fill out **communion cards** clearly and completely, one card per person. Visitors are asked to fill out the address of their home church (if you identify with one) so we may forward the card there. Take a moment also before leaving to sign our guest book, located in the entrance area.

If it is necessary to **leave the sanctuary** during worship, please refrain, if possible, from doing so during the reading of scripture or the Eucharistic prayers so as not to distract other worshippers.

Restrooms are located through the left side doors of the chancel; then left through the french doors; restrooms located in the foyer on the right.

The use of **electronic devices** during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or set to vibrate before the start of the service.

Hearing assistance is available for members and visitors to Jordan. Please see an usher to arrange to use a receiver.

A Koala Bear **baby changing station** is located in the handicapped restroom across from the church offices (in the new section). Children's welcome bags and bulletins are located in the narthex. Please ask ushers for help.

Children in grade 9 and younger are asked to remain in the Memory Room when consuming refreshments during the fellowship hours.

Please be sensitive to the fact that many people are allergic to or bothered by **strong scents** (perfume, aftershave, etc.), particularly when many people are gathered closely together, as for **worship services**.

For Parents of young children: We are grateful that God has blessed Jordan with so many young children. Worshiping with young children is a special privilege and joy for all of us. We enjoy the sounds of children in our worship. However, if you sense the need for a "calming break" feel free to take him/her to the Memory Room or Nursery (located through the doors on the left side of the altar) where you can continue to hear and be involved in the worship.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of Jordan**, please speak with the pastor following the service or call the church office (610-395-5912).

JELC NEWS for the Week of Sept. 17 - 23

THIS WEEK (Sept. 17 – 23)

TODAY (17)

-9:15am, Sunday School
-9:15am, New Member Info mtg.
-9:30am, Chorale
-6:30pm, AA Meeting, Social Hall

MON (18) PANTRY 9 -10 AM

-6:30pm, Jordaniers Bowlers
-7:00pm, Boy Scouts
-7:30pm, Allentown Band, Family Ctr.

TUES (19)

-1:30pm, Game Day, Room 8
-5:00pm, Brownies, Social Hall
-7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

WED (20)

-9:00am, Prayer Shawl
-6:15pm, Friendship Ringers
-6:30pm, Canon Choir
-7:00pm, Badminton, Family Ctr.

THU (21)

-9:00am, Rising Roots Homeschool, Family Ctr.
-7:00pm, PA Dutch Class, Social Hall

FRI (22)

-5:00pm, Youth Badminton, Family Ctr.
-7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.
-9:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

SAT (23)

-10am-noon, DAR meeting, Memory Rm.

Attendance

9/10/23

8:00 – 28

10:30 - 55

Altar flowers are given in memory of Diane Stettler by Bruce and family (T)

The flowers on the piano are from the funeral of Barbara Diehl last Thursday.

Say a Prayer ☞ Send a Card ☞ Pay a Visit

Fellowship Community: Lillian Semmel,

Donald Laudenslager

Lehigh Commons: Janet Stettler

Sacred Heart: Dale Gogel

Parkland Manor: Paulette Bassler, Shirley Wertman

Heather Glen: Sonny Laudenslager, Herb & Anna Bieber

Home: Margaret Smith, Reed Klotz

Please keep these people in your prayers: Helen Shollenberger, Susan Mancino, Gladys Harkins, Kim Demarest, Vanessa Mace, Dean Shollenberger, Lester Knipe, Nat Hager, Bob Pellen, Lori Kocher, Lisa Williams, Carol Ludwig, Richard Gross, Kim Friend, Bethany Friend, Jon Conrad, Barry Dorney, Rumpun Heller, Ted DuBois, Nancy Cleff, Pam James, Chris Heilman, Donna Stark

Birthdays this week: Lynn McDevitt, Carolyn Mikols, Oliver Fox, Kim Roth, Ben Albright, Diane Beitler, Jane Suhocki, Radelle Psarsky

Anniversaries this week: Mark & Jennifer Shafer (13), Paul & Kimberly Demarest (15), Andrew & Stacy Grim (20), Dan & Stephany Heckman (17), Julie & Chris Boscia (28), Cedella & Paul Schenck (28), Keith & Judy Young (62)

Worship Services are back to 8:00 & 10:30

Looking for volunteers to teach Sunday school once a month starting September 2023!

Join the Sunday School Team to teach kids how to play and pray God's way!

Contact Stephanie Derstine at jordandff@ptd.net for information.

SPONSORSHIPS

Altar Flowers: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22; Nov. 26; Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Altar flowers may be sponsored for \$40/2 vase, or *\$20/1 vase*; Bulletins for \$20.

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-295-9148 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the last service or want them taken to shut-ins. If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

Worship Assistants

DATE	9/17	9/24	10/1	10/8
Altar Guild	8:00-J Murphy 10:30-I Martz, G Martz-Shelton	8:00-J Murphy 10:30-L Stettler	8:00-S Wagaman 10:30- I Martz, G Martz-Shelton	8:00-C Dorney 10:30-C Rabenold, K Leonard
Lector	8:00-J Siegfried 10:30-K Boardman	8:00- 10:30-J Boscia	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
Acolyte	8:00- N Heckman 10:30- C Wozniak	8:00- B Epting 10:30- O Wozniak	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
Ushers	8:00-D & D Stark 10:30-J Steiner, D Heckman	8:00-D & D Stark 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
Bell Toller	8:00-J Bair 10:30-J Siegfried	8:00-D Stark 10:30-B Stettler	8:00-B Lutterschmidt 10:30-S Hamil	8:00-D Stark 10:30-J Siegfried
SAT	8:00-J Siegfried 10:30-D Clark	8:00- 10:30-K Boardman	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
Video	10:30-	10:30-	10:30-	10:30-

Please look at the dates we have no one scheduled and give a call to the name listed below for the area(s) you can help with!

Altar Guild/Lynn Daniels lj2137@aol.com // **Lectors**/Julie Boscia Julie.boscia@gmail.com // **Acolytes**/Stephany Heckman sgarbeglio@yahoo.com // **Ushers** /John Weremedic miner70@ptd.net // **Bell Toller**/Sandie Hamil hamilsre@gmail.com // **SAT**/Doug Clark d.clark854@gmail.com // **Video**/Tom Daniels tkdaniels@ptd.net

If you are looking for a way to offer your time & talent, consider one of the above ways – ALL groups need volunteers!

Family Promise 2023

We have two more weeks to host families at Jordan in 2023. Please consider signing up soon. You can go the Jordan website -> Ministries -> Outreach for the link to SignUpGenius or use the links here:

Week of October 1 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D45AEA82FAAF85-hosting5>

Week of October 8 – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D45AEA82FAAF85-hosting6>



Adult Bible Study

Our class will resume in the fall on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month at 6:30 – 7:30/8:00 p.m. Many times, our second scripture readings assigned on Sunday mornings are from the Apostle Paul’s letters.

Join us this year (16 sessions) as we journey with the Apostle Paul from the Book of Acts through the Epistles (Paul’s Letters). **Our class begins September 26th. Class books have been ordered, but if you really want to join in, there are a limited number of extras.**

God’s Work Our Hands

Members and friends of Jordan are invited to celebrate **“God’s Work Our Hands”** on Sunday, October 15th, 2023. Our activities have been carefully chosen so that our community and shut-ins may benefit from our benevolent actions. As always, our celebration will be preceded by a gourmet luncheon that will provide the nourishment and spiritual strength to do God’s Work. Lots of projects are under consideration and if you have ideas for how we can extend ourselves to benefit the community, please let us know!

Let us *all* take part in this rewarding celebration by helping those who will benefit from our God gifted time and talent. Watch for additional information and a sign-up easel appearing soon!

Be a part of this day of giving and look the part in your official “yellow mellow” T-shirt! Shirts are \$12.50 each, final order date is September 24th. Contact Dave Mancke of the Outreach Committee at 484-866-6620.



The Christian sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of **Barbara Diehl**, 84, who died September 6, 2023, at Complete Care, Macungie. The service was held last Thursday. Please remember Barbara and her loved ones in your prayers.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUGUST 2023				
	Month	YTD	Budget Amounts	
Income:			Month	YTD
Operating Income	\$ 16,473.39	\$ 230,785.54	\$ 29,350.00	\$ 254,800.05
Benevolence	\$ 494.00	\$ 4,863.00	\$ 1,333.33	\$ 10,666.64
Property	\$ 775.00	\$ 8,451.00	\$ 2,083.33	\$ 16,666.64
Total Income	\$ 17,742.39	\$ 244,099.54	\$ 32,766.66	\$ 282,133.33
Expenses:				
Administration	\$ 1,201.73	\$ 13,884.21	\$ 1,554.17	\$ 12,433.36
Benevolence	\$ 1,687.50	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 1,812.50	\$ 14,500.00
Payroll	\$ 21,779.98	\$ 178,779.31	\$ 22,311.05	\$ 180,675.56
Ministries	\$ 834.51	\$ 7,895.62	\$ 972.91	\$ 7,783.28
Property-Utilities, grounds, etc	\$ 6,072.29	\$ 75,385.89	\$ 9,124.99	\$ 72,999.92
Total Expenses	\$ 31,576.01	\$ 290,445.03	\$ 35,775.62	\$ 288,392.12
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (13,833.62)	\$ (46,345.49)	\$ (3,008.96)	\$ (6,258.79)

Coming to Jordan this Fall!!!

Who: All members of Jordan, from the newly confirmed to those approaching 100

What: A new Sunday interactive gathering called Circle of Faith

When: Sunday mornings at 9:15 beginning September 17th

Where: Nursery/Preschool Room

Why: To strengthen our faith

How: We will view and share thoughts on the current streaming TV series, "The Chosen," which focuses on the everyday lives of the original 12 disciples and Mary Magdalene and how they were "chosen" by Jesus.



Looking forward to your participation in this gathering of faith. If you have questions, contact Darlene Wenhold at 610-737-0954.

Harvest Home, October 8, 2023



There will be a special basket in the narthex for non-perishable food donations for Harvest Home. Items will be donated to the Food Pantry after Harvest Home. Anyone who has fresh produce to be used for the display, please bring it to the church, Sat., Oct. 7th, by 10:00 AM. It can be set on the porch at the Sunday School foyer if the doors are locked. If you wish to reclaim your produce, it can be picked up after the 10:30 service on October 8th.

Sunday Fellowship

All are welcome to stop by the Memory Room after each service on Sunday mornings for some coffee, fellowship and snacks. We need volunteers to sponsor refreshments each week. Please see the sign-up sheet on the lectern in the Memory Room for available dates to host. Does not need to be elaborate!

N.E. PA Women of the ELCA Fall Justice Event

Diversity – Reaching Across Barriers to Live as God’s People. Date: Saturday, October 14, 2023, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Location: Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1327 Alleghenyville Rd., Mohnton, PA. Registration is \$15, forms available from the Jordan church office.



Jordan Lutheran Church welcomes all children ages 3-11 to join our Sunday school classes in the Fall for an hour of learning about Jesus and our awesome God! Our teachers and volunteers have created a fun and safe environment for our kiddos to listen to Bible stories, create fun art and craft activities, sing songs and play games.

Friday, October 13th

Friday the 13th, the youth will enjoy a night of **“Glow Golf” at Bear Rock Junction**, meeting at 6 p.m. Additional fun at BRJ is a corn maze, scavenger hunt, hayride, and go-karts for an extra fee.

Sunday, October 15th

During ‘God’s Work Our Hands,’ the youth invite everyone to help **gift-wrap Christmas boxes for the Holiday Hope Chest project**. GWOH is held in the Family Center at noon. Boxes will be distributed the following week in the Memory Room to be taken and fill with gifts. Details will be noted inside each box of items needed and the date to return the boxes.

Saturday, October 28th

'Fall Fest for the Family' - Jordan youth, families and friends are invited for hot dogs and hot chocolate, while painting pumpkins, face-painting, kids games, and pie-baking and eating contest for youth and adults. Please plan to join together, noon - 2 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, November 5th

Everyone is invited to join Jordan’s **Fall Basket Social** fundraising event! There will be a fantastic selection of baskets for all ages filled with goodies and prizes, to include gourmet food and wine, tickets to local sporting events, purses, jewelry, gift cards, games and more! Browsing baskets begins at noon in the Family Center, drawing at 4:00 p.m. Food and beverages available to dine-in or take out.

Sunday, December 3rd

A quick and easy DIY project; **create a salt-dough ornament** for the holidays. There is nothing more meaningful than a homemade ornament to decorate a Christmas tree or give as a gift. Everyone is invited, noon – 2 pm in the Social Hall. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Saturday, December 16th

Family and friends are invited to come along for **Christmas caroling** through Parkland Manor and Heather Glen. Time: 2 – 4 pm. Those interested will meet in the church parking lot (front of the building) at 1:30 pm. We will return for refreshments at church served in the Memory Room.

Sunday, December 17th

Children and Youth Christmas Program presented at the 9:15 am worship service. Additional details will be noted in the November newsletter.

