



**September 24, 2023**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**8:00 a.m. Worship Service &**  
**10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion**

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*The Lord is  
gracious and  
compassionate,  
slow to anger and  
rich in mercy.*

PSALM 145:8

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

# GATHERING

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

Congregation reads **BOLD**

## Bell

## Announcements

**Prelude:** (8:00): *Largo* - by Antonio Vivaldi, arranged by Kevin Norris  
(10:30): *Holy, Holy, Holy; Lamb of God; At Last* - from *All Creation Sings*, 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

## Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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Music © Oxford University Press.

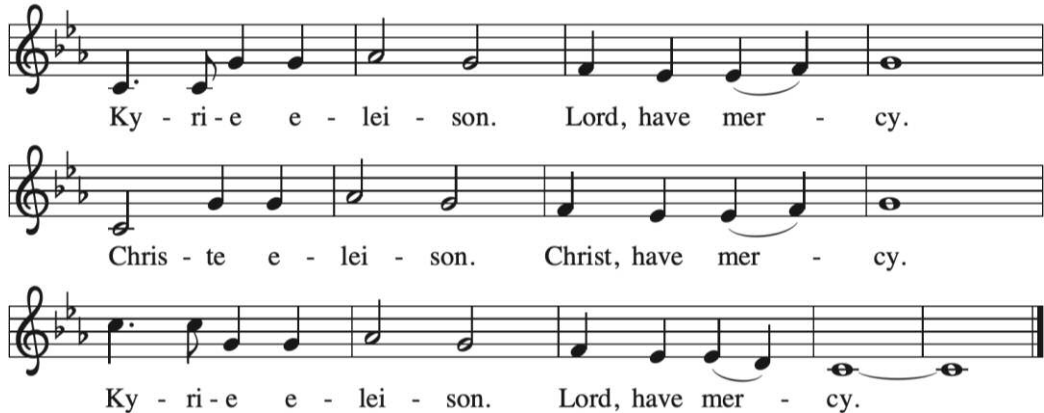
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## Greeting

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

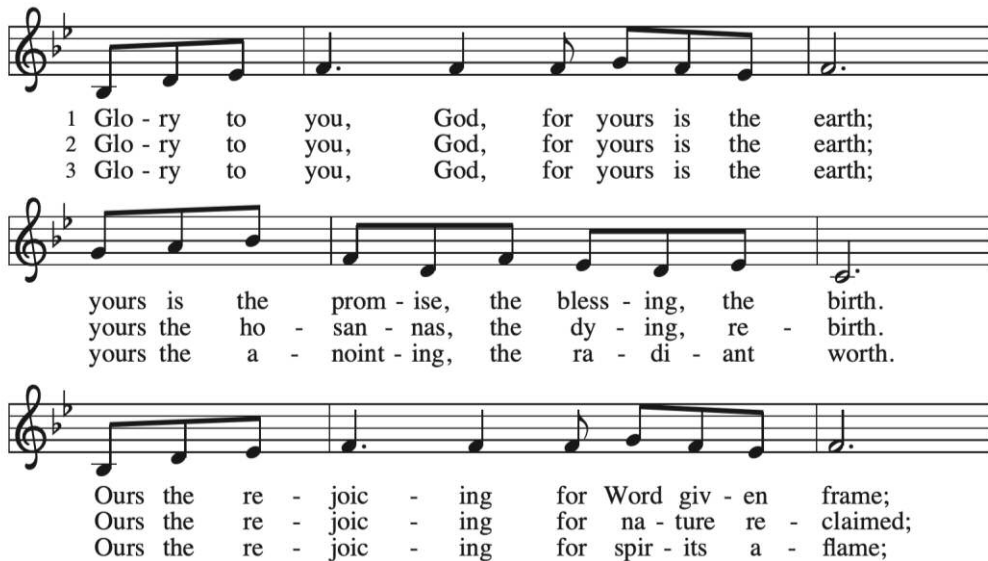


Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Hymn of Praise



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. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

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

*All may be seated*

### First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

*After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?*

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And

now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?” *The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 145:1-8 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)**

*The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps. 145:8)*

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my <sup>l</sup> God and king,  
and bless your name forev- <sup>l</sup> er and ever.

<sup>2</sup>**Every day <sup>l</sup> will I bless you  
and praise your name forev- <sup>l</sup> er and ever.**

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly <sup>l</sup> to be praised!  
There is no end <sup>l</sup> to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works <sup>l</sup> to another  
and shall de- <sup>l</sup> clare your power.**

<sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor <sup>l</sup> of your majesty  
and all your <sup>l</sup> marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your <sup>l</sup> wondrous acts,  
and I will re- <sup>l</sup> count your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of <sup>l</sup> your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully <sup>l</sup> of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full <sup>l</sup> of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in <sup>l</sup> steadfast love.**

## Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. *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.

## Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.” *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All may be seated*

## **Children’s Sermon**

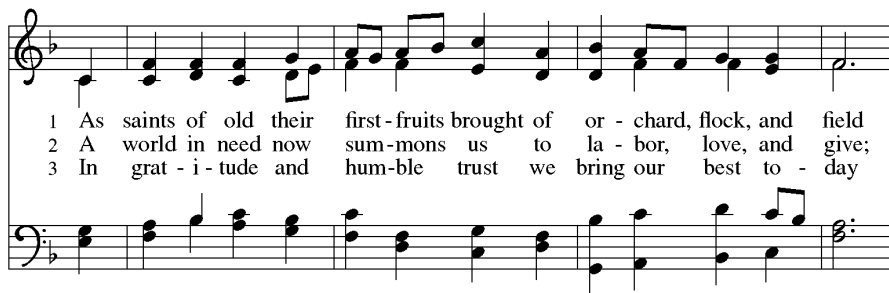
### **Sermon**

*All who are able are invited to stand*

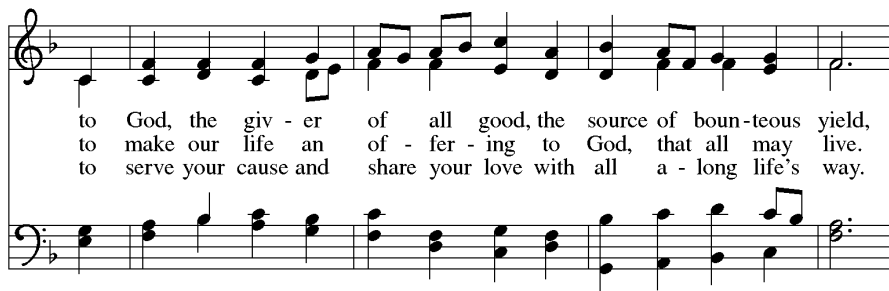


# Hymn of the Day

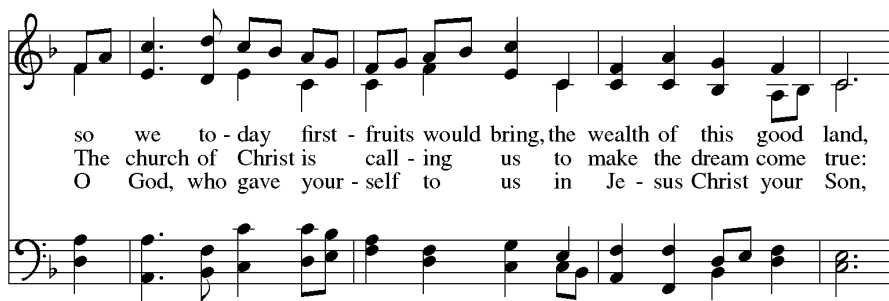
## As Saints of Old



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field  
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;  
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,  
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.  
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,  
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:  
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.  
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.  
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.  
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
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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.*

God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind, *especially Helen, Susan, Gladys, Kim, Vanessa, Dean, Lester, Nat, Lori, Lisa, Richard, Kim, Bethany, Jon, Barry, Rumpun, Ted, Nancy, Pam, Donna, Chris, Madison.* 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 Patricia, Elizabeth, Kristie, Matthew, Chell, Mark, Ashleigh, Kathryn, Kimberly.* 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 Roland & Sharon, Patricia & Jack, Carolyn & Dale, Doug & Margie, Carl & Carol, Bill & Kathleen.* 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 Jordan, Orefield, and our pastor Dody Siegfried. 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): *Kum Bah Yah*

- African melody, arranged by Roy C. Wilson

(10:30): *God Bless the Hands*

- music by John B. Dykes, words by Marty Haugen

-Jordan Chorale

*All who are able are invited to stand*

### **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 13 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.

## 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

# Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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# Take My Life, That I May Be

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, while the bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff 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

*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,



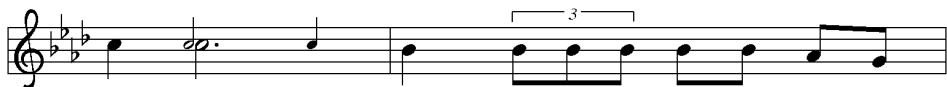
pue - des de - jar a tu sier - vo ir - se en paz.  
you let your ser - vant go forth in free - dom and peace.



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

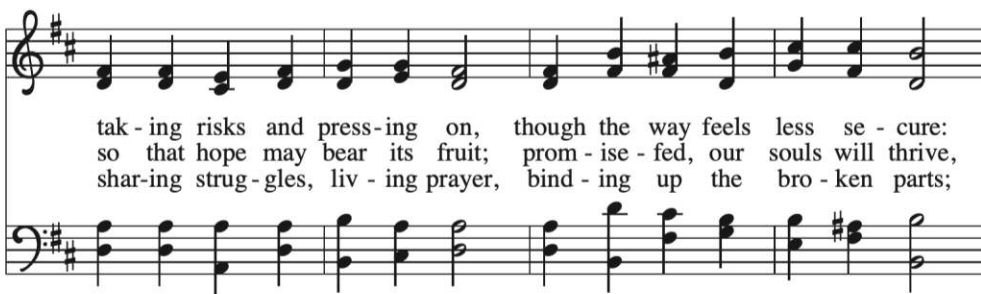
The God of glory, ✚ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

#### Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,  
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live  
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:  
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,  
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.  
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.  
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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## Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* - by William Croft, setting by Benjamin M. Culli

**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. 24 - 30

## THIS WEEK (Sept. 24 – 30)

### TODAY (24)

-9:15am, Sunday School  
-9:30am, Chorale  
-11:30am, Acolyte Training  
-6:30pm, AA Meeting, Social Hall

### MON (25)

-6:30pm, Jordaniers Bowlers  
-7:00pm, Boy Scouts

### TUES (26)

-6:30pm, Bible Study, Room 8  
-7:00pm, Groundhog mtg., Memory Rm.  
-7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

### WED (27)

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

### THU (28)

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

### FRI (29)

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

Volunteers are needed to staff the church office during Monica's vacation, October 16 – 20. Answer the phone, greet visitors, take messages from 10am – 2pm. Call or email the office if you can take a day!

## Attendance

9/17/23

8:00 – 38

10:30 - 61

**Altar flowers** are given in honor of the wedding anniversary of Chris and Julie Boscia. (T)

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](mailto:jordandff@ptd.net) for information.

## **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>

## *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 Shollenberer, Lester Knipe, Nat Hager, Lori Kochoer, Lisa Williams, Richard Gross, Kim Friend, Bethany Friend, Jon Conrad, Barry Dorney, Rumpun Heller, Ted DuBois, Nancy Cleff, Pam Jaymes, Donna Stark, Chris Heilman, Madison Dreisbach

**Birthdays this week:** Patricia Budlong, Elizabeth Schofield, Kristie Beitler, Matthew Tom, Chell Dorney, Mark Miller, Ashleigh Budlong, Kathryn Leonard, Kimberly Ream

**Anniversaries this week:** Roland & Sharon Harrier, Patricia & Jack Hoffman (1), Carolyn & Dale Stettler (25), Doug & Margie Clark (48), Carl & Carol Hoffman (60), Bill & Kathleen Lutterschmidt (37)

## SPONSORSHIPS

**Altar Flowers:** Oct. 1, 15, 22; 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](mailto: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	9/24	10/1	10/8	10/15
<b>Altar Guild</b>	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	8:00-L Daniels 10:30-K Leonard
<b>Lector</b>	8:00-A Russell 10:30-J Boscia	8:00-C Dorney 10:30-K Boardman	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00- B Epting 10:30- O Wozniak	8:00-P Shafer 10:30-O Wozniak	8:00-L Epting 10:30-D Dreisbach	8:00-L Epting 10:30-O Wozniak
<b>Ushers</b>	8:00-D & D Stark 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
<b>Bell Toller</b>	8:00-D Stark 10:30-B Stettler	8:00-B Lutterschmidt 10:30-S Hamil	8:00-D Stark 10:30-J Siegfried	8:00-B Lutterschmidt 10:30-S Hamil
<b>SAT</b>	8:00- 10:30-K Boardman	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-	8:00- 10:30-
<b>Video</b>	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](mailto:lj2137@aol.com) // **Lectors**/Julie Boscia [Julie.boscia@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.boscia@gmail.com) // **Acolytes**/Stephany Heckman [sgarbeglio@yahoo.com](mailto:sgarbeglio@yahoo.com) // **Ushers** /John Weremedic [miner70@ptd.net](mailto:miner70@ptd.net) // **Bell Toller**/Sandie Hamil [hamilsre@gmail.com](mailto:hamilsre@gmail.com) // **SAT**/Doug Clark [d.clark854@gmail.com](mailto:d.clark854@gmail.com) // **Video**/Tom Daniels [tkdaniels@ptd.net](mailto: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!**



### 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 26<sup>th</sup>. 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 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. Let us *all* take part in this rewarding celebration by helping those who will benefit from our God gifted time and talent.

Look for the yellow information sheets in the literature racks and the article in the October newsletter.

Sign ups are open so stop by the table in the Memory Room and choose your favorite project!

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 24<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dave Mancke of the Outreach Committee at 484-866-6620.

### Basket Social – November 5th

Please pick up one of the gold information sheets which includes all you need to know about this popular event, including guidelines for donating baskets. See the October newsletter for the same. Or stop by the Memory Room to learn more. Empty baskets available.

Four cemetery plots in JELC cemetery for sale. Section C, Lot 14, graves 1,2,5,6.  
Call the church office to get contact information to speak with the person who is selling them.

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
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 17,742.39</b>	<b>\$ 244,099.54</b>	<b>\$ 32,766.66</b>	<b>\$ 282,133.33</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
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
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 31,576.01</b>	<b>\$ 290,445.03</b>	<b>\$ 35,775.62</b>	<b>\$ 288,392.12</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (13,833.62)</b>	<b>\$ (46,345.49)</b>	<b>\$ (3,008.96)</b>	<b>\$ (6,258.79)</b>

### ***New Opportunity for Adult Education***

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 17<sup>th</sup>

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. 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 8<sup>th</sup>.

### ***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.





### Friday, October 13th

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup>

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 28<sup>th</sup>

**‘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 5<sup>th</sup>

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 3<sup>rd</sup>

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.

## **CREATED TO BE 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering** MYLE + the tAbLe Young Adult Gathering

The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans! This gathering is open to anyone in grades 8-12 (currently in 7-11th grade). Also, for the first time, the ELCA is offering a Young Adult Gathering, connected to but separate from the Youth Gathering for those who will be age 18-35 at the time of the Gathering. Registration will be live and online starting September 15, 2023 - April 15, 2024. Participants are asked to register as congregational groups, with one adult serving as the primary adult leader and organizer for the group. Please check out the following website for additional information at:

<https://www.elca.church/gathering/faqs>.

Adults and students interested in attending or serving as a primary adult leader/organizer for the group, please contact Stephanie Derstine, Director of Faith Formation at [jordandff@ptd.net](mailto:jordandff@ptd.net).

For additional information regarding specific dates to register for the Youth Gathering please review the registration information at:

<https://www.elca.church/gathering/attend/congregations>.

The priority date to register is Sept. 15th - Nov. 1st, 2023

Regular registration dates: Nov. 2nd, 2023 - Feb. 14th, 2024

Late registration dates: Feb. 15th - Apr. 15th, 2024