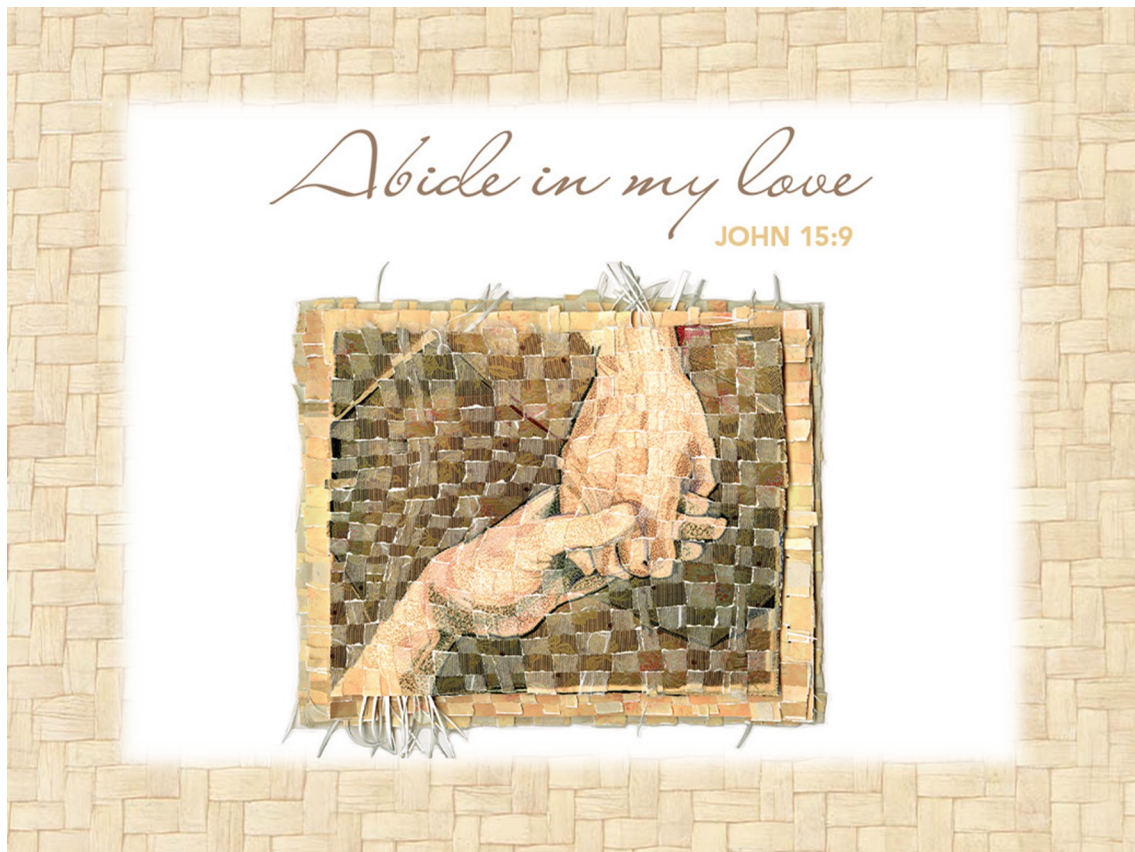


**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 9, 2021**



## **Grace Lutheran Church**

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244

Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Email: [office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net)

Website: [www.gracelutheranspnj.org](http://www.gracelutheranspnj.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Althea Albright

**Music Director:** Mr. Scott J. Breiner

**Church Secretary:** Diana McArdle

**Sexton:** Andrew McCarrick

# Welcome

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

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## Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to ***belong*** to the church of Jesus Christ,
  - Equipping those who ***believe*** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- 

### Serving in Worship Today—

**Worship Assistant:** Corinne Rhodes

**Altar Guild:** Brenda Traa

**Sound Technicians:** Jim Foreman, Michael Piskun, Shawn Welfield

### In Our Hearts and Prayers

**Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving Our Country:** Members & Friends of Grace: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USMC; Sara Myers, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

**Hospitalized - or in need of healing:** Ruth, David, & Ric Alburger, Mary Ellen Bartholomew, June Becker, Dave Brown, Carol Campbell, Dr. Robert Carlson, Ed Carpenter, Christine Carter, Peg Cwienk, Roy Cole, Deb Connelly, Emile DeLong, Tad Dildilian, Kimberly Frawley, Ed Gannon, Jeanne Gehring, Chris Hinnant, Bob & Dona-Lee Hughes, Pat Johnson, Darryl Kashey, Joyce Kaye, Terry Kearney, Carol Traa Keates, Nancy Keirsey, Darrell Kopp, Lora, Judith & Roger Landis, Bob Loper, Susan Marich, Quinn Meldrum, Anne Moore, Tom Ostrander, Tommy Parker, Tami Peters, Renee Pugliese, LouAnn Rest, Indigo Rose, Cheryl Rusiecki, Alan Sisson, Dana Sisson, Judy Toth, Bob Traa, Grace DiGenni Traa, Carol-Ann Tracy, George Walters, Joann Wehrhan, Joan Wisdom, & Lucy Dildilian Yannis

**At Home** - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

**Shores@Wesley Manor:** Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

**Rehab@Shores of Wesley Manor:** Lois Rahme

**Woodview Estates:** Lorraine Moore

# Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book

## Congregation responses in bold print.

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

*Introduction and Toccata in G Major*

by William Walond

*Please stand as you are able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom  
no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of  
your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your  
holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given  
ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.  
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things  
we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you,  
and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in  
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and  
made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.  
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God  
strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in  
your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven

ELW # 367



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

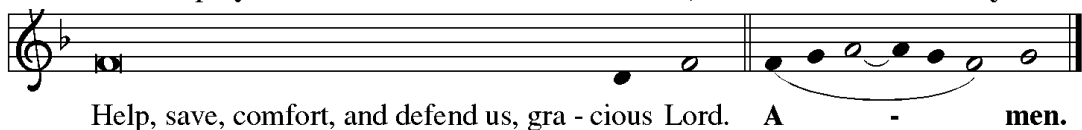
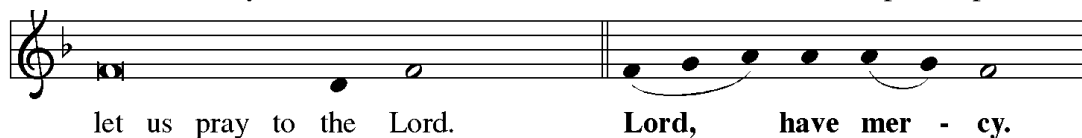
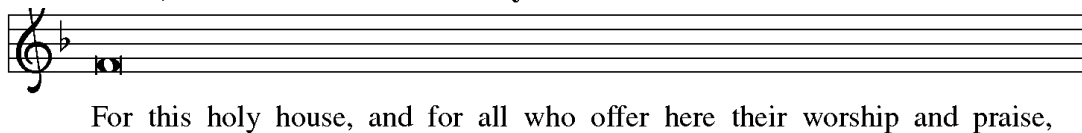
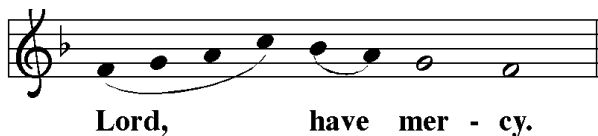
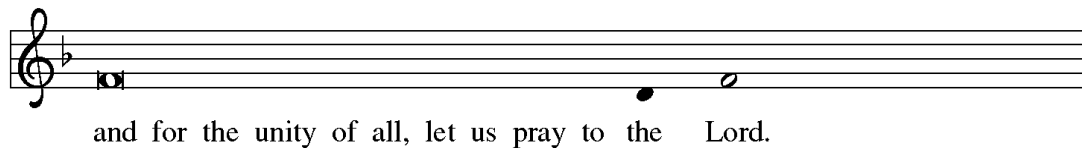
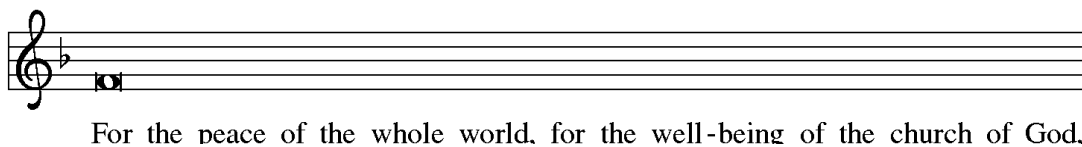
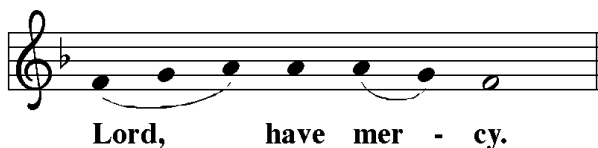
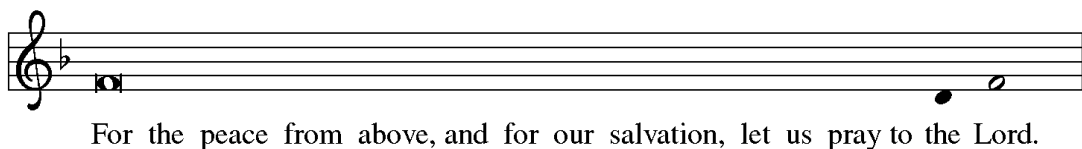


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## 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



## THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



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

*Refrain*



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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

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

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

*Refrain*



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

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*brief silence*

**O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

A reading from Acts.

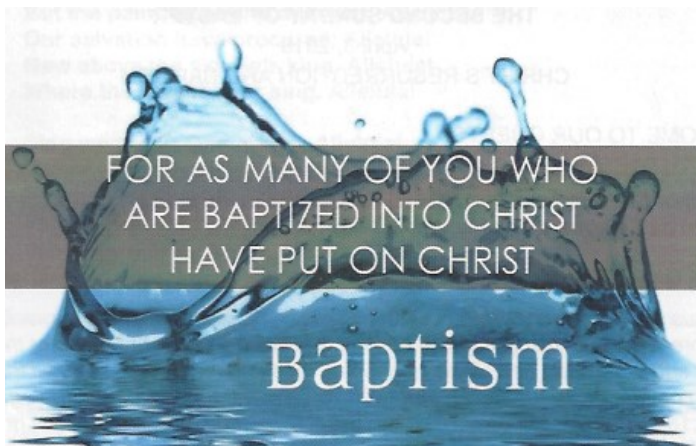
*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

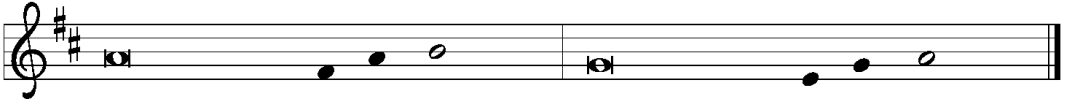
<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

<sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”

<sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**





## PSALM: Psalm 98

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD | with the harp, / with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn  
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it, / the world and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers | clap their hands, / and let the hills ring out with joy before the  
LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness /and the peo- | ples with equity.

## SECOND READING: First John 5:1-6

A reading from First John.

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to St John, the 15th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

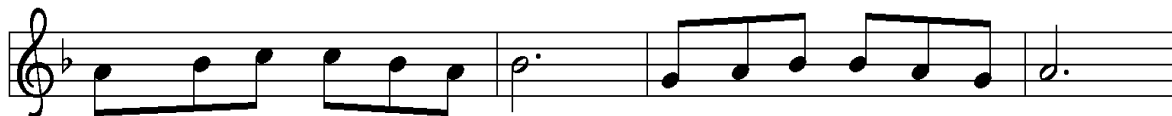
ELW # 708

*Refrain*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



- |   |                                    |                                      |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Kneels at the feet of his friends, | si - lent - ly wash - es their feet, |
| 2 | Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor,  | var - ied in col - or and race,      |
| 3 | These are the ones we will serve,  | these are the ones we will love;     |
| 4 | Kneel at the feet of our friends,  | si - lent - ly wash-ing their feet:  |

*Refrain*

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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## APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

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

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

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

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

## WEEKLY OFFERING

*We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace. Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.*

## OFFERTORY

*Sing a New Song*

by Warner Hutchison

*Please stand as your are able*

## PRESENTATION OF GIFTS



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the

joy of your sal - va-tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray...**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*Pastor:* Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*Brief silence.*

*Leader:* Holy God, in Christ Jesus the joy of the church is made complete. Root the church in your Word and unify us as Christ's body. Send us into the world as your loving people, ready to testify to your Spirit at work. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Leader:* Mighty God, the world is your handiwork, displaying your creative impulse. Seas are filled with life, forests reach up to praise you, and the mystery of life lies deep in the earth's soil. Guard and keep this world for the well-being of all your creatures. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Leader:* Gracious Sovereign, those who follow your ways are like trees planted near streams of water. Establish the leaders of nations and all in authority in your grace and truth. Strengthen them, so that the people they serve will have abundant and peaceful life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Pastor:* Generous Savior, you befriend those who are sick, suffering, poor, lonely, outcast, rejected, or sick. Grant healing and love to all in need *especially* all those we name now or in our hearts... Give them tangible signs of your kindness and love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Leader:* Creator God, here in this community we share the gift of praying, learning, and supporting one another. Give us thankful hearts as we claim the gifts that are unique to us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Pastor:* In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and half notes, with slurs indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## 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,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

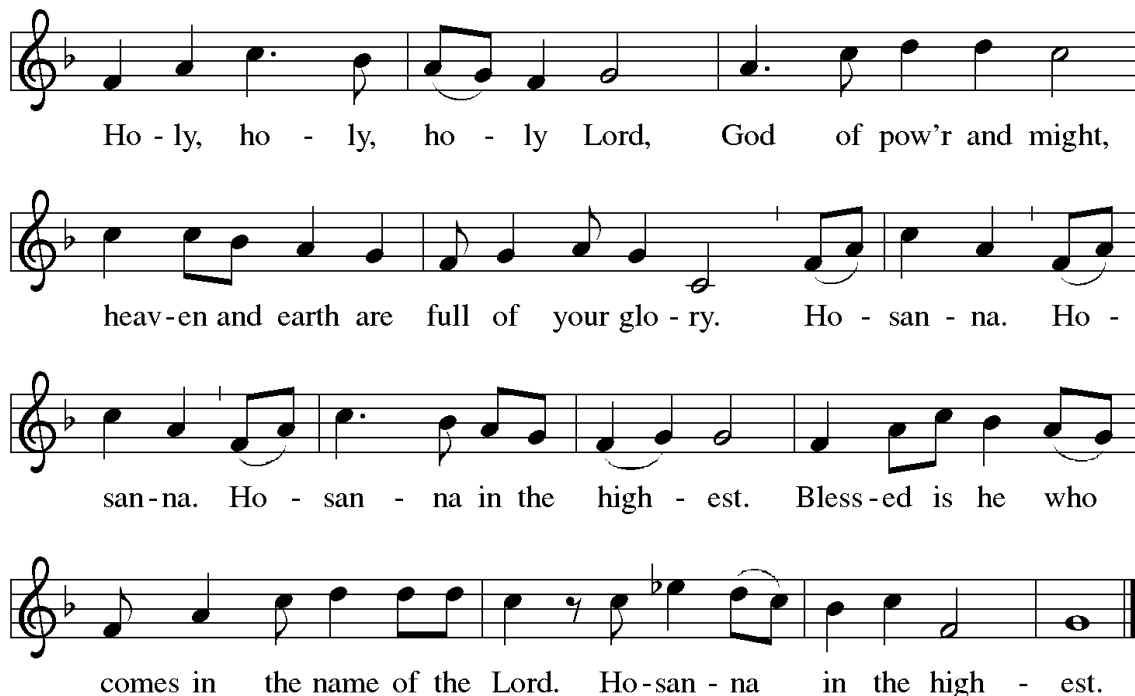
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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

On 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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

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

May all blessing, praise, and thanks be to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

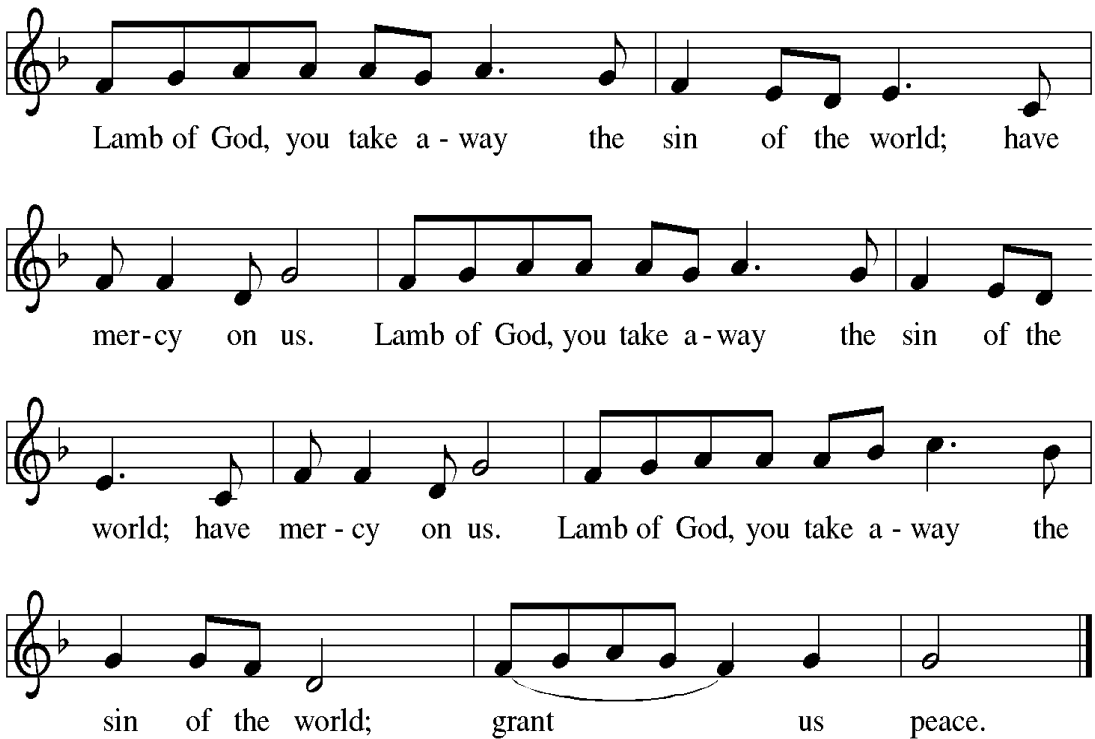
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

## COMMUNION HYMN



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.

*We will partake of the bread and grape juice together.*

*Wait for direction from the pastor.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **God's love endures forever.**

Let us now commune with the Lord together.

This is the body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** *(brief silence)*

This is the blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.** *(brief silence)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen  
Music on next page

**ELW # 548**

*Please be seated for the postlude.*

*Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.*

## POSTLUDE

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*  
[Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds]

by Mark Sedio

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## .SENDING SONG

Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen

ELW # 548



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,  
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low  
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture  
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



from this meal of love and grace;  
 af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;  
 God has called us to re - ceive;  
 cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



may we through such love en - vi - sion  
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed  
 pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,  
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
 to re - lease and to con - sole.  
 Spir - it - ed then let us live.  
 from this day and un - to death.



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



God, the won - der of our days.  
 Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.  
 Spir - it, grace by whom we live.  
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: SURGE ECCLESIA, Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958

Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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# Events This Week - May 9 - 16, 2021

## Happy Mother's Day!

### Sunday 5/9 Sixth Sunday of Easter

**8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge**

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service

Holy Communion

### Monday 5/10

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

7:00 pm - AA Meeting - Social Hall

### Tuesday 5/11

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

6:30 pm - NA

### Wednesday 5/12

9:00 am - 11:30 am - Food Pantry

7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

7:30 pm - Compassionate Friends

### Thursday 5/13

5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

### Friday 5/14

10:30 am - Grace Stitchers

### Saturday 5/15

### Sunday 5/16 Seventh Sunday of Easter

**8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge**

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service

Holy Communion

11:30 am - Baptism: Jaxon Gage Declet



**2021 FLOWER CHART** is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Available for weekly dedications are Candles, Sanctuary Flowers, Bulletins, Wine & Anthems. Please sign your name next to the date and item on the chart you wish to have dedicated in the bulletin.

**Be sure to fill out the payment envelope with all the information for the bulletin, a week before (or sooner) your desired date, place it in the Offering plate or bring to the church office.** Thank you, Diana

### Available Dedications on the Flower Chart

5/16 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music

5/23 - Candles, Bulletins, Music

5/30 - Bulletins, Wine, Music

6/6 - Bulletins, Wine, Music

6/13 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music

6/20 - Candles, Bulletins. Wine, Music

6/27 - Candles, Bulletins, Music

## Dedications

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Memory of my husband Larry

Given by Roberta Blumenthal