

Pentecost 12

August 15, 2021

**The one
who eats
this bread
will live
forever**

JOHN 6:58



Grace Lutheran Church

Worship at 8:00 am (Spoken) & 10:15 am (Liturgical)

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

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

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Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Welcome

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here whether you are here to worship with us as a first time visitor, friend, neighbor, or lifelong member. If you have any questions, concerns, or need pastoral care, Pastor Althea would love to talk with you. Feel free to speak with her after worship or contact her by email at: pastoralthea3@gmail.com or by phone 484-345-0399.

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
- Sending members to ***become*** caring servants of God in the world.

Serving in Worship Today—Worship Assistant: Diana McArdle

Altar Guild: Brenda Traa - **NO Fellowship**

Sound Technicians: Jim Foreman, Michael Piskun, Shawn Welfield

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace! We are trying a new way of listing our prayer concerns in the coming weeks. If you notice someone who is missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea via phone, Facebook, or email or contact our secretary in the office to add people who are on our hearts each week and include our ongoing concerns.

Members of Grace: Jim C., Cheryl R., Betty N., John N., John S., Corinne & Scott Rhodes

Family and friends: Family and friends of Doris Pugliese (sister of Rene Pugliese) Elliott, Gage (friends of Pastor Althea); Jody (niece of Grings); Maria, Cecilia, and Richard (friends of Welfields); Shirley & Carl (Parents of Debbie Kleuser) Family and Friends of AJ Clement; Family and Friends of Cat, Christian and Alizay; Jim, Vicki, (friends of Meg LaSpina), Payton (friend of Joyce Bianco), Annmarie (friends of Marlene D.), Tami (friend of Brenda T.), Family of Ambrose O'Donnell, 3rd (Friend of Claire Brick);

Those Serving Our Country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USM; Cainan Johnson, USAF

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

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

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

WITH ONE VOICE
BREAD OF LIFE
Congregation responses in bold print.

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

Baptized in Water variations by Anthony Giamanco

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we open our hearts to you. You know each of us inside and out.

We cannot hide anything from you. Create in us hearts of love and humble us to serve you by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Renew our relationship with you and restore our joy as we worship you and magnify your holy name. **Amen**

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

God of Grace, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We humbly repent and we want to be close to you again. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Restore our relationship with you. Uphold us and strengthen us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may live and serve you once again through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved through faith. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that you may know Jesus' great mercy and love for you. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

ELW # 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

L O R D H A V E M E R C Y
Christ have mercy
 L O R D H A V E M E R C Y

GLORY TO GOD



Refrain: Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

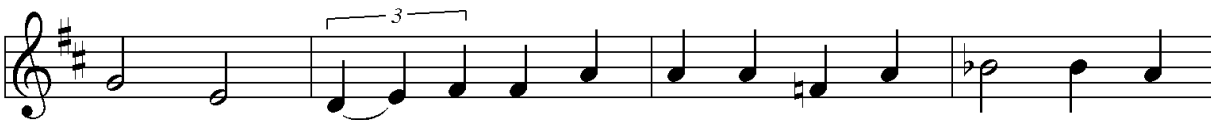


wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

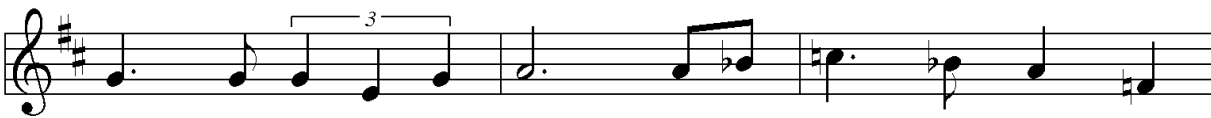
Refrain:



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together....**Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

¹Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

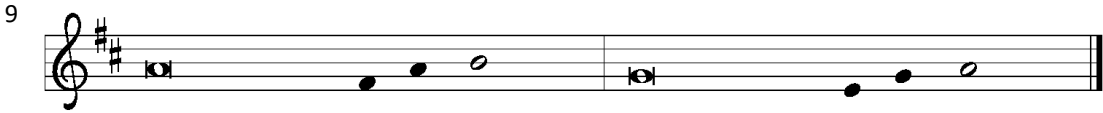
³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

⁴“You that are simple, turn in here!”
To those without sense she says,

⁵“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

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



PSALM: Psalm 34:9-14

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.

¹¹Come, children, and lis- | ten to me;
I will teach you reverence | for the LORD.

¹²**Who among you takes plea- | sure in life**
and desires long life to en- | joy prosperity?

¹³Keep your | tongue from evil
and your lips from | lying words.

¹⁴**Turn from evil | and do good;**
seek peace | and pursue it.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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?

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

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

GOSPEL READING: John 6:51 - 58

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

Refrain



We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are



giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er



joined, the great-est and the least, we all are



one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.



- 1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
- 2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
- 3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her



hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-
gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-
rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-



ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion.
par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing.
bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

Refrain



ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion.
par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing.
bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING**Atlantic City Rescue Mission**

*Monthly special offering for a designated local, national and international ministry.
Our Third-Sunday usher team takes a few extra minutes before our regular weekly offering to collect this special offering of coin donations.*

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

Breaking the Bread

by Allen Pote

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Please stand as you are able



☐ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Please be seated

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

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray together for however we have made offerings to God in our lives.

Let us pray. **We praise you, God, Creator of the universe. We thank you for all of the blessings in our lives and in the lives of those around us. Take these gifts and use them for your holy work. Grant us opportunities to serve those in need. Send your Spirit to watch over us and guide us in all that we do through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Leader: God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: God of all creation, we have many successes yet we have done great damage to the earth. We find that oceans are warming, many aspects of nature are changing, animals and their habitats are suffering, and weather is all affected by pollution and human activity. Give all of us and our global leaders wisdom and courage to make improvements to the ways we live so that we may show increasing respect for our planet. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of compassion and healing, send your love and tender care to all who need you. We pray for all those who struggle with addiction, those who have mental illness, those who have guilt, grief, and losses in their lives, and all those we name now or in our hearts... Let us know your presence and healing touch. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Pastor: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

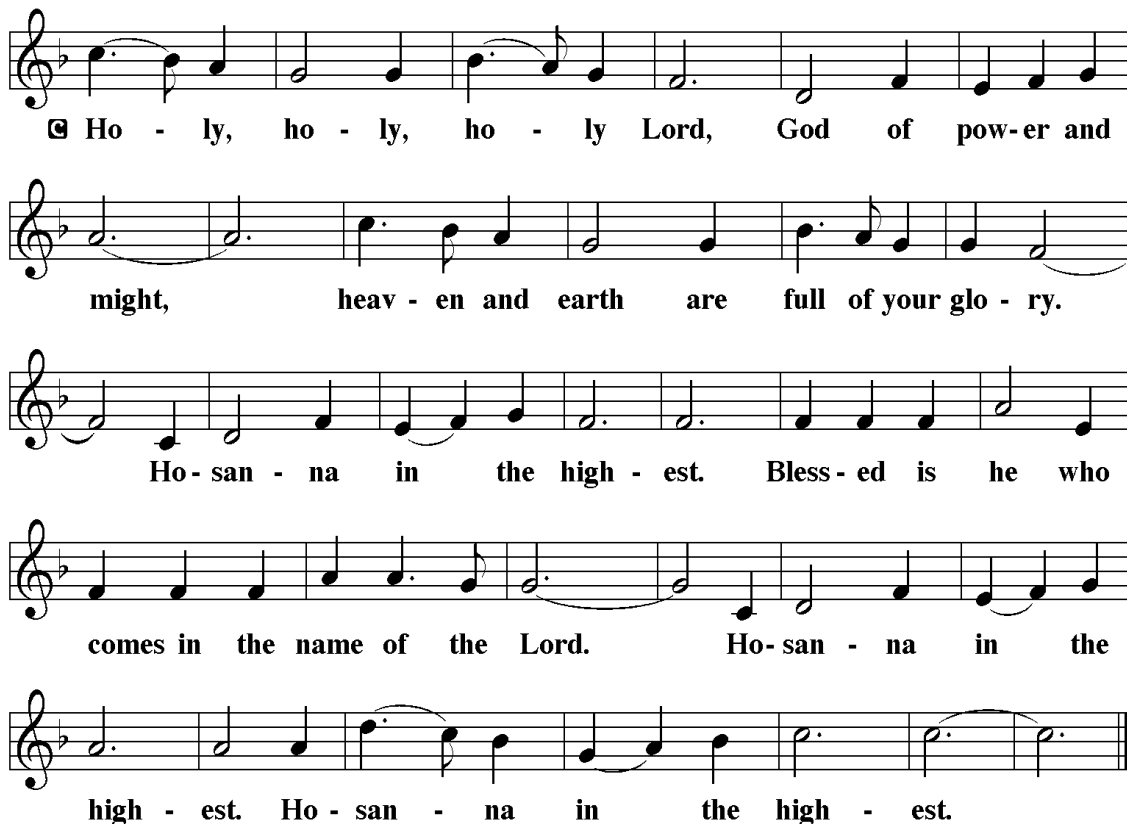
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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 to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have taken us by the hand, and offered yourself to us in a sacred sacrament. You are the creator of all things; you knew the earth and its inhabitants before their birth. You know our inner most being and offered us love and forgiveness in the new covenant embodied in your Son, Jesus, who died for all the world. Now, with the whole church, the angels, and all of heaven we praise you and sing:



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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty God, at this, your holy table, we come to you to be fed by your presence.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill 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 we celebrate this holy meal. May all 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 Christ, let us pray.

**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**

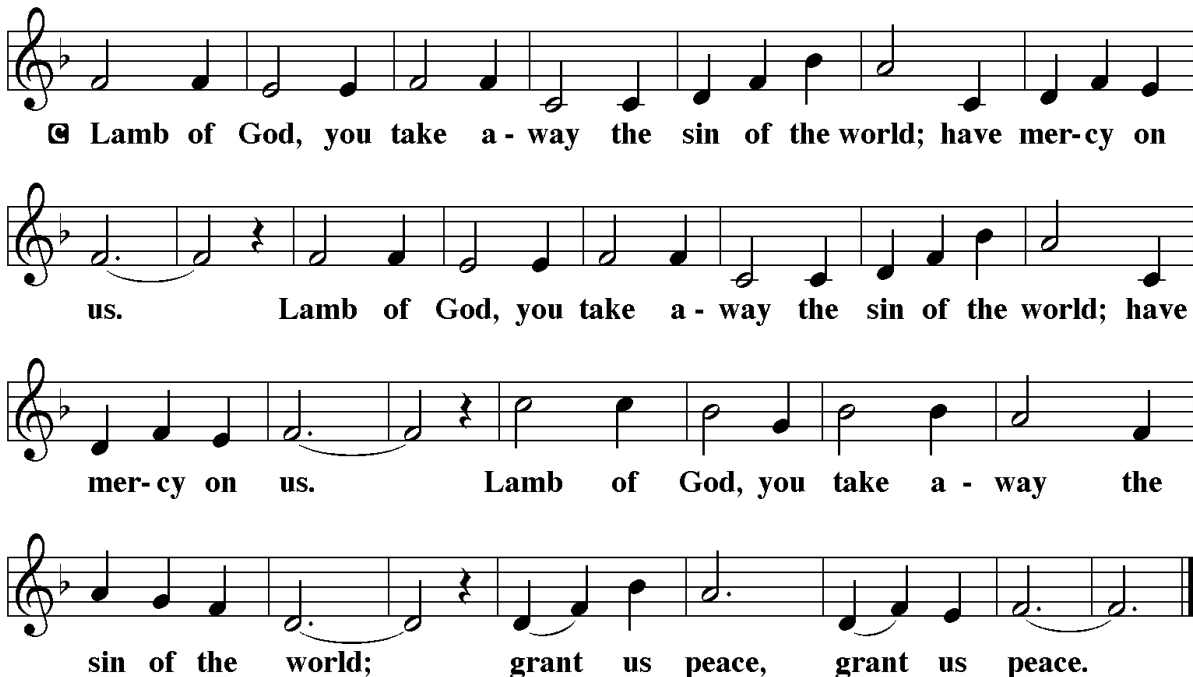
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet for Christ is our host. **Amen.**

Communion will be offered in two ways, continuous at the chancel step, and at the direction of Pastor after everyone has come forward (for those at home online and those who choose to remain seated).

Follow the direction of the ushers to come to the front or remain seated and after all have come forward, direction for the prefilled host and grape juice will be given.

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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

IF YOU CHOOSE TO COME FORWARD:

Follow the directions of Pastor and the Ushers.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN AT YOUR SEAT OR YOU ARE ONLINE:

Prepare your elements after all have come forward and wait for direction from Pastor.



CANTICLE



☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the
 Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
 lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the sharing of this holy meal you bless us with the body and blood of your Son to refresh and restate all of your people.

Give us courage and guidance that we may continue to be your hands and feet in the world. Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

Beloved children of God, as we are sent from this place, know that God loves you.

Remember Christ's presence is with you wherever you go.

Know that the Spirit is with you whenever you call on the Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW # 537

Music located on the next page

Please be seated for the postlude.

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

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C Major

by David N. Johnson

DISMISSAL

Go and serve others with the love of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW # 537

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;


Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear-ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

Weekly Household Devotions

Time After Pentecost

Year B - Lectionary 20

Sunday, August 14-20



Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Psalm 36:5

Looking Back . . .

Sunday	John 6:51-58	"Whoever eats of this bread will live forever"
Monday	Psalm 36	Human wickedness and divine goodness
Tuesday	Genesis 45:1-15	Joseph reveals himself to his brothers
Wednesday	Acts 6:1-7	Seven chosen to serve

Looking Ahead . . .

Thursday	Psalm 34:15-22	Praise for deliverance from trouble
Friday	Joshua 22:1-9	The eastern tribes return to their territory
Saturday	Romans 13:11-14	An urgent appeal
Sunday	John 6:56-69	The words of eternal life



Pentecost: How We Feed Each Other

We think about how we feed each other with food that not only sustains us, but makes us healthy and strong. Take time to learn about how we can change our habits to make our bodies more healthy and help others around the world have access to healthy food and clean water.

This Week

Now that you have done a little research on healthy eating as a family, have the younger members of the family prepare a simple healthy meal for the rest of the family and maybe invite a neighbor over as well! Pray that all people have access to healthy food and clean water.

Faith on the Go



Come Lord Jesus be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.
Blessed be our God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen



What fed your spirit today?
What "junk food" did your spirit eat today?



John 6:51-58 - "Whoever eats of this bread will live forever"

Day 1

John 6:51
We have the benefit of knowing about the Last Supper and communion when we read this, but what did it sound like to the people around Jesus? What did they think?

Day 2

John 6:52-53
What do you "eat" that gives you life? A good book?
Conversation with a good friend? The quiet sounds of a walk in the woods?



Day 3

John 6:54-55
What do you think of when you hear that Jesus' flesh and blood are the true food the true drink?

Day 4

John 6:56-57
Abide is an interesting word. It can mean to wait, or to accept and act in accordance with. It can even mean to tolerate! How do you abide with God and Jesus?

Day 5

John 6:58
How does faith in Jesus give you life today? What does your faith give you that food alone cannot?



Jesus feeds your spirit today and everyday. Eat and be full!

Events This Week - August 15 - 22, 2021

Sunday 8/15 Pentecost 12

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service

Holy Communion

11:30 am - Sunday School Ministry Meeting

Monday 8/16

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

7:00 pm - AA Meeting—Social Hall

Tuesday 8/17

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

6:30 pm - NA

7:00 pm - Church Council Meeting

Wednesday 8/18

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

11:30 - 3:30 - Bayside Bridge Group

7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

Thursday 8/19

5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm - Food-Family & Faith

7:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - Lounge

Friday 8/20

10:30 am - Grace Stitchers

7:30 pm - AA Meeting—Lounge

Saturday 8/21

Sunday 8/22 Pentecost 13

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service

Holy Communion

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. For your convenience, flower /dedication envelopes are now available in the Narthex/Lobby. Please be sure to write your name on the date requested on the flower chart located in the Office Wing outside the Church Office.

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

Dedications

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Loving Memory
of our sister Danielle
Given by Tony, Mikey and Jason