

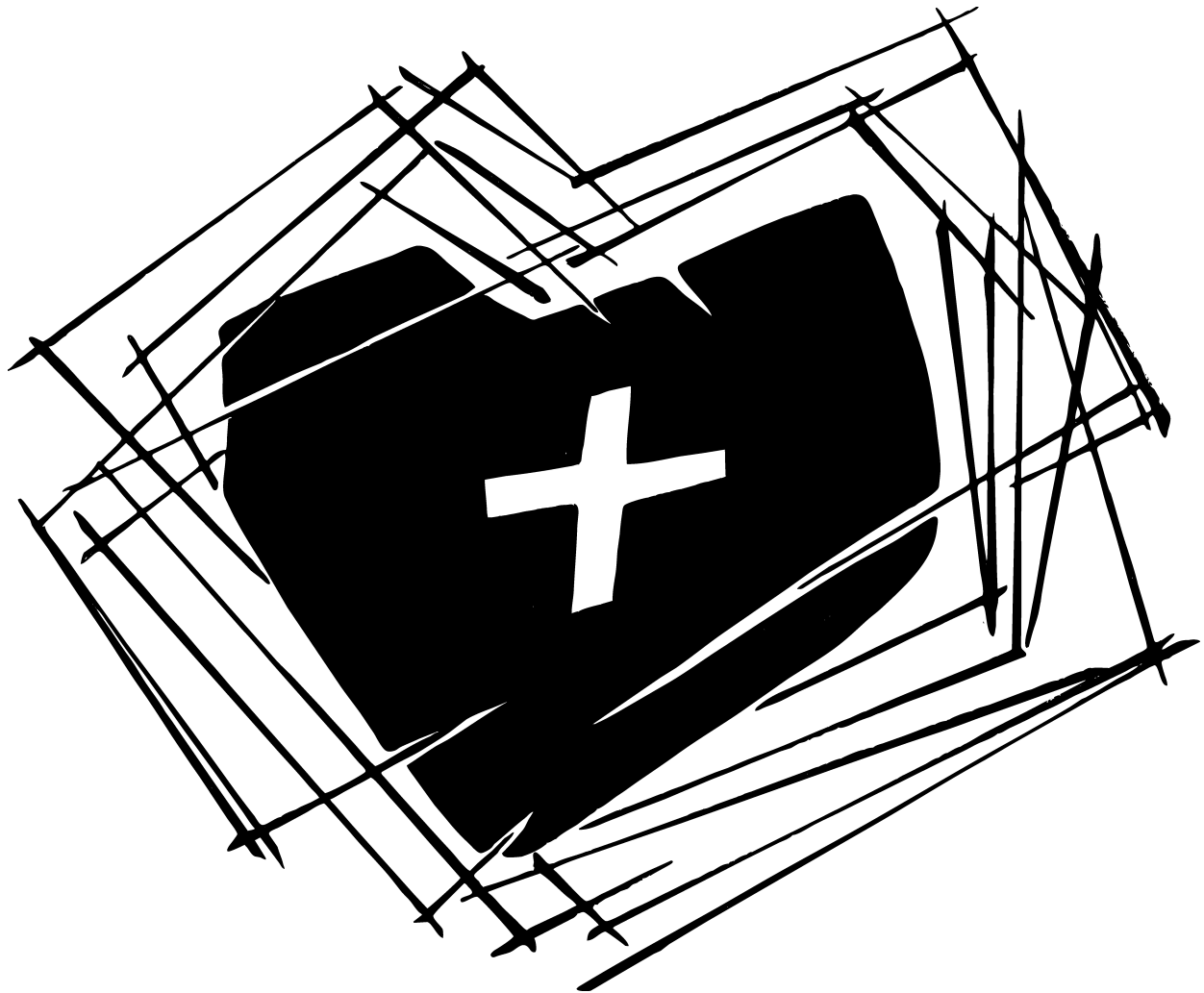


The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

*We Greet Our Members and Visitors
Warmly In Jesus' Name.*

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

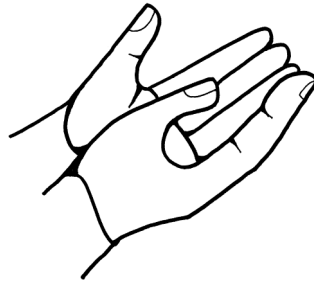
10:00 a.m. Sunday, September 1, 2024



Welcome to Worship at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
Sharing the Gospel, Learning God's Love, Reaching and Lifting Up Creation!
2415 Chili Avenue. Rochester, NY, 14624 | 585-247-7824 | www.oursaviourrochester.org

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.



Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

All: Amen.

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

Pastor: Have mercy, O God,

All: **against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

Pastor: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above the earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

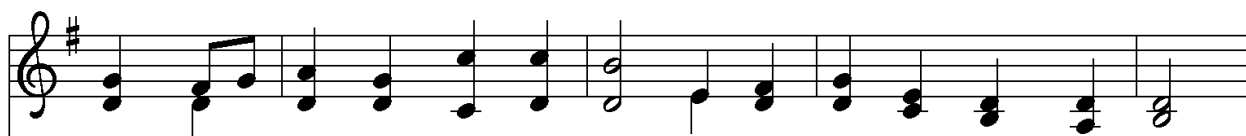
All: **Blessed be God forever.**

(Please stand until the conclusion of the Gloria)

Entrance Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth"



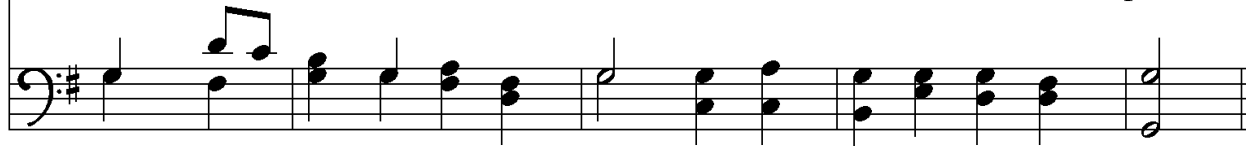
1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



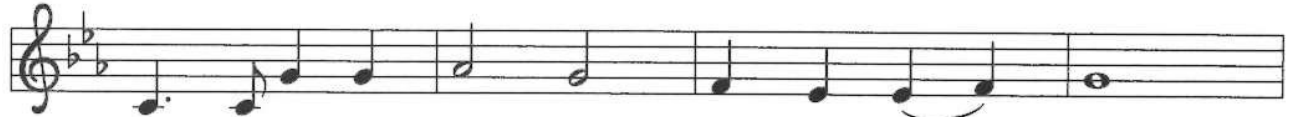
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.



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

All: And also with you.

Kyrie



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.

Gloria



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

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

(You may be seated)

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Lector: *The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Lector: The word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

- Lector:* Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?
- All:* **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**
- Lector:* they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.
- All:* **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**
- Lector:* They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

The Second Reading: James 1:17-27

Lector: *The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

A reading from the book of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

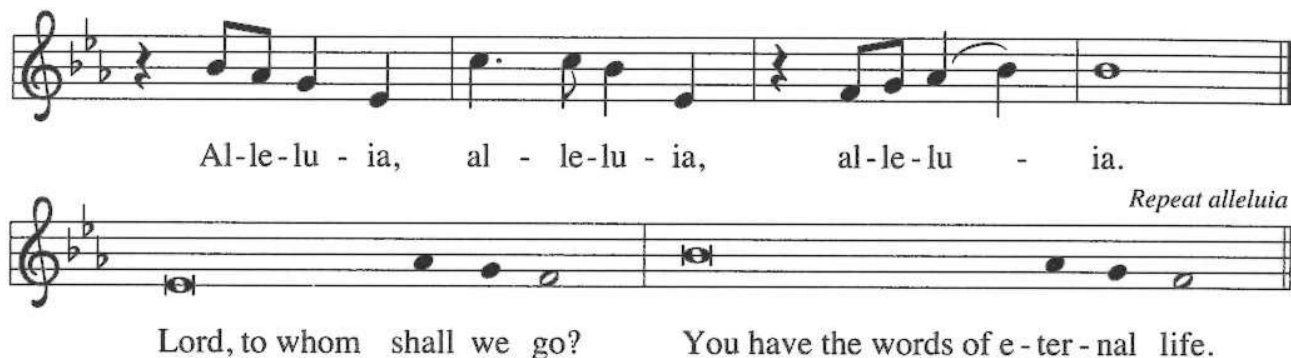
If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand if you are able)

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

The Gospel Reading: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Pastor: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord According to St. Mark.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Pastor: Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles. So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. “For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Hymn of the Day: "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

(You may be seated)

The Sermon: Pastor Joachim Wilck



Hymn of Response: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;

Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

(Please stand if you are able)

The Apostles' Creed

Pastor: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

All: **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.

Prayer of Intercession

Pastor: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need. *(a brief silence)*

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions in countries like China that still have child and forced labor. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God,

All: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: **Amen.**

Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

Offering Hymn "As the Grains of Wheat"



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



- 1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
- 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when
- 3 May these gifts we of - fer be plea—sing in your sight



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.
Help us share your grace with all the world.

Offering Prayer

Pastor: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: 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 in 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.

Pastor: O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

All: **The earth is full of your glory.**

Pastor: We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth. 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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in the song: The earth is full of your glory.

All: **The earth is full of your glory.**

Pastor: O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

All: **The earth is full of your glory.**

Pastor: Amen, and amen.

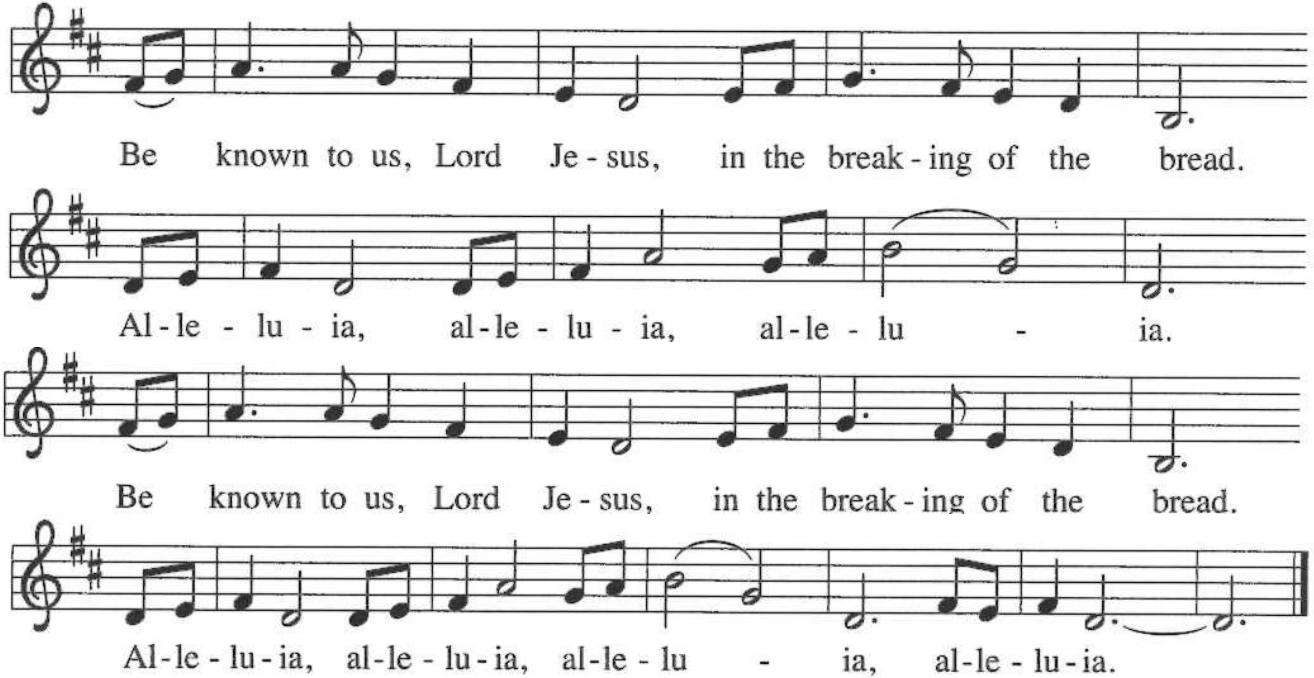
All: **Amen, and amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray as our Savior taught.

All: **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.**

Communion



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

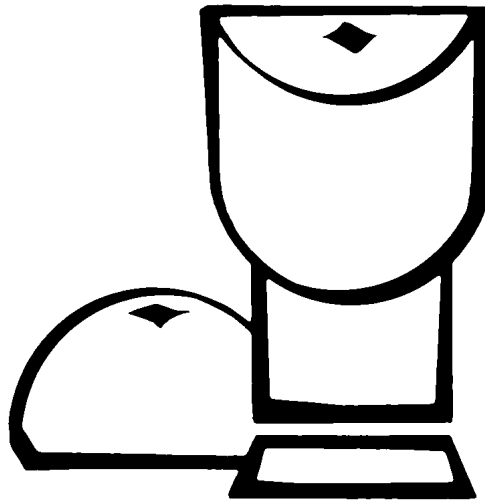
Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first and third staves are identical, with lyrics: "Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread." The second and fourth staves are also identical, with lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases ending in a fermata.

Communion Invitation

Pastor: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.



*(if you would like communion to be brought to you in your pew,
please speak to a service leader.)*

Communion Hymn: “All Good Gifts” *from the musical Godspell.*

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land..

But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand..

He sends us snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain...

The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain...

All good gifts around us

Are sent from Heaven above

So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love...

We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good,

The seedtime and the harvest, our life our health our food,

No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts

But that which thou desirest, our humble thankful hearts!

All good gifts around us

Are sent from Heaven above..

So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love..

I really wanna thank you Lord!



(when all are seated the following is sung)

Post Communion Hymn: "Now The Meal Is Over"

1 Part I
Now the meal is o - ver, peace to all who leave here.

2 Part II
Let us now go for - ward with strength and cour - age.

3 Part III
When we leave here, fed and nour - ished,

1
Now the meal is o - ver, peace be with you now.

2
Let us now go for - ward to heal a bro - ken world.

3
love will be our last - ing call.

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another through Jesus Christ our Lord.

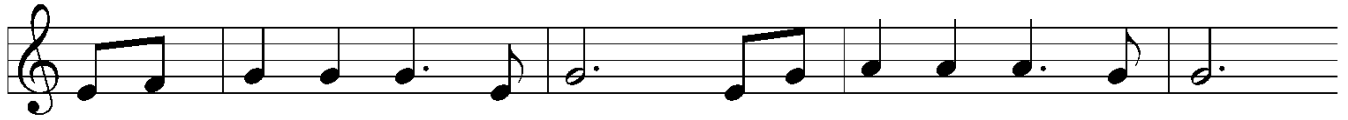
All: Amen.

Blessing

Pastor: God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

All: Amen.

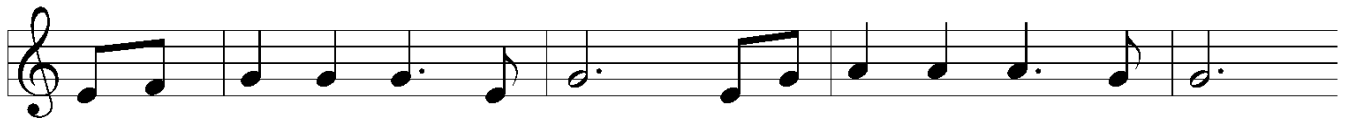
Closing Hymn: "Go in Peace and Serve the Lord"



Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is call - ing you to - day.



Go and tell gos - pel news ev - 'ry - where.



Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is call - ing you to - day



to bring truth and love to ev - 'ry na - tion.

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace, carrying the love of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

