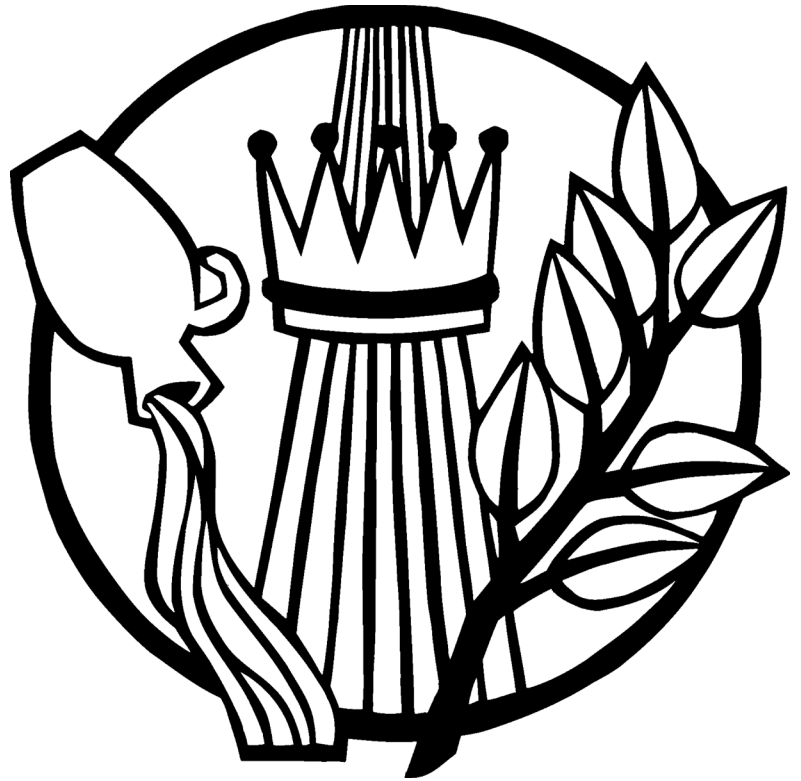


September 15, 2024
17th Sunday after
Pentecost



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

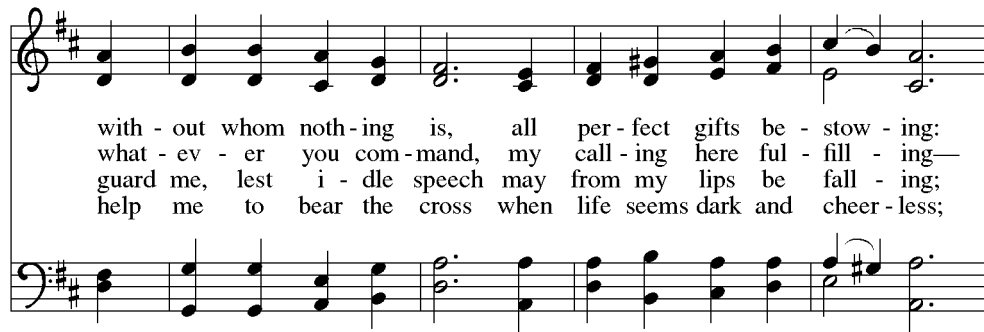
In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN – Oh God, my Faithful God (LBW 504)

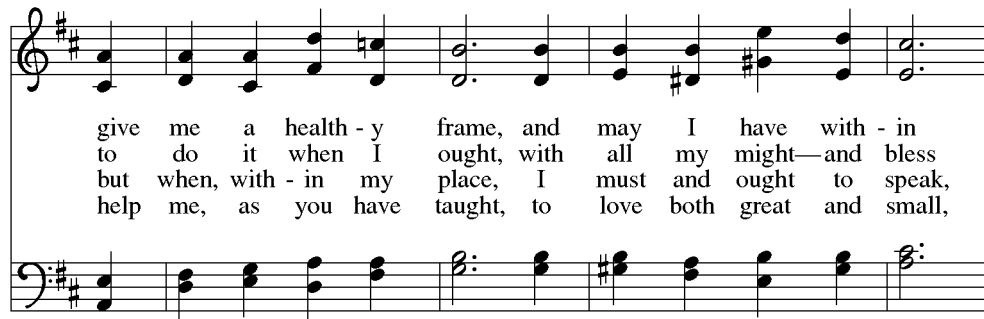
O God, My Faithful God



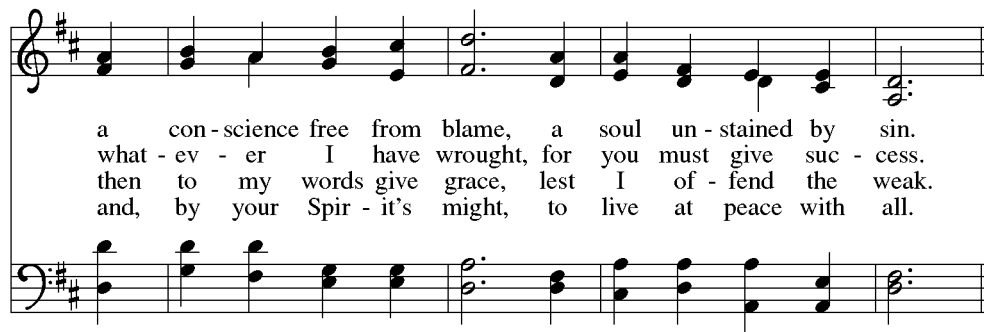
1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing;
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

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 (ELW 157)

Kyrie

Leader
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have


Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE (ELW 167)

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9 (*Read responsively by whole verse*)

¹I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,
²**for the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.**
³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.
⁴**Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."**
⁵Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
⁶**The Lord watches over the innocent;
I was brought low, and God saved me.**
⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul.
for the Lord has dealt well with you.
⁸**For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**
⁹I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Second Reading: James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (2x)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8: 27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord.

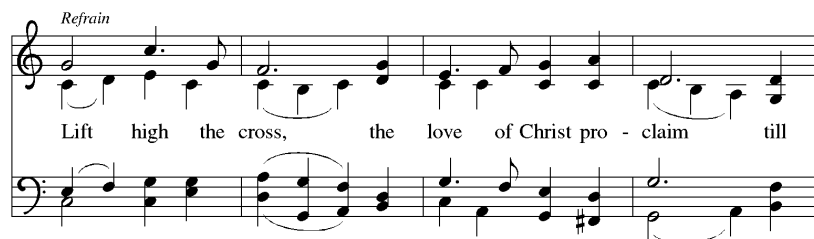
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – PASTOR STEVEN WILCO

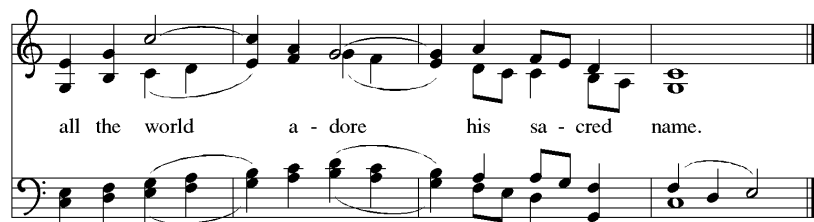
HYMN OF THE DAY – Lift High the Cross (LBW 377)

Lift High the Cross

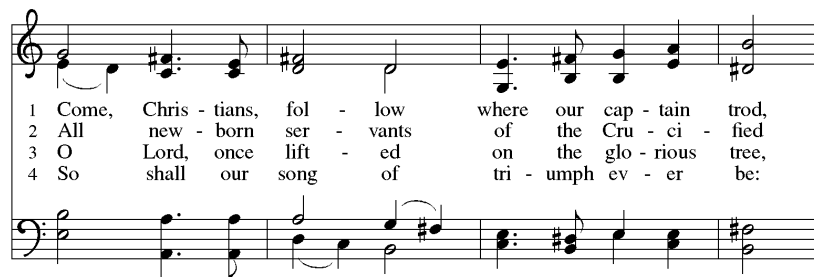
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

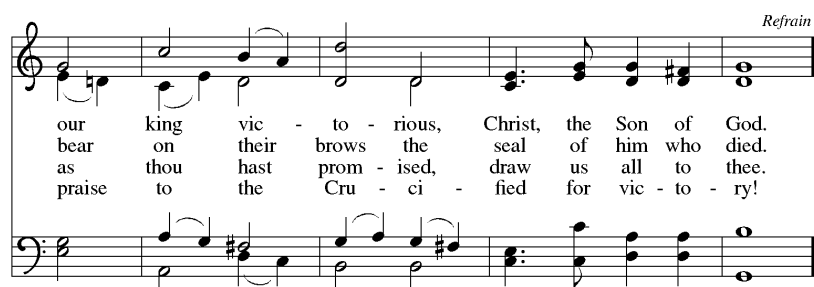


all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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 power of 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

Trusting in the goodness of the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray in the power of the Holy Spirit for the Church, the world, and one another. *A brief silence*

Father, thank you for delivering our souls from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from stumbling. Thank you for your Son, who took on our stumbling, tears, sins, and death, and who gives us his holy and lovely life in return. Thank you for healing us so that we can follow Jesus and share him with the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that your Church always proclaims Christ crucified and raised from the dead. Let it constantly confess Jesus as your only-begotten Son and beloved Servant, who bears and heals the world's sin, sorrow, and suffering. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Persecuted Christians throughout the world bear their cross in faithful obedience to Jesus. Sustain, protect, bless, and provide for them. Help us, whose crosses are lighter, to bear their burdens however we can. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Increase the faith of everyone in this congregation, dear Lord. Conform our worship and works to Christ. Use us to bring his healing, forgiveness, and salvation to those who need it most. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Many church programs are starting up! Bless and prosper all that glorifies you and builds up the Body of Christ. Increase our love of learning, zeal for service, and warmth of spirit. Especially we pray for teachers, discipleship guides, choirs, committees, and all who shine the love of Jesus upon those who do not know him well. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sometimes as we pray for loved ones in distress, we are like the father who cried out to you, "Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief!" Keep us steadfast in faith as we pray for all who suffer. Remind us all that Jesus has indeed "borne our sickness and carried our infirmity." In his name we pray for those we name either silently or aloud. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most holy God, keep in your tender care our beloved dead. Help us to encourage one another in faithful prayer and holy living. Receive us into the glorious company of all the redeemed. Draw us to yourself, so that with angels and archangels and all the hosts of heaven, we may praise and adore you forever – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Incline your ear to our prayers, dear Lord; and answer them according to your most gracious and holy will, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(If you choose to exchange the peace, please use hand sanitizer before you start and again when finished.)

OFFERING & OFFERTORY – AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT (WOV 705)

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



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



Refrain

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (ELW 191A)

Holy, Holy, Holy *Great Thanksgiving*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE: AUTUMN

Holy God,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.
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 life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to 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.**

FRACTION

LAMB OF GOD (ELW 195):

Lamb of God

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

(Please use hand sanitizer before coming to the Altar. Both intinction and common cup are available.)

HYMN OF THE MONTH – AS THE WIND SONG (ACS 943)

As the Wind Song



1 As the wind song through the trees, as the stir - ring of the
2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the hope that's born a -



breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of God,
gain, so it is with the Spir - it of God,



as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the voice with - in the
as the green in the . . . spring, as a kite on a . . .



storm, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
string, so it is with the Spir - it of God,



Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has
mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come



blown bring-ing life, bring-ing pow'r to the world,
true, bring-ing gifts, bring-ing love to the world,



as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -
as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the . . .



sire, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
feast, so it is with the Spir - it of God.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (ELW 208)

Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

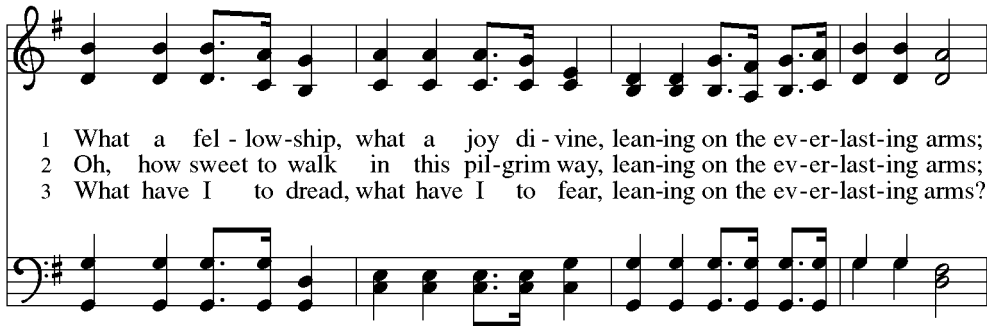
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

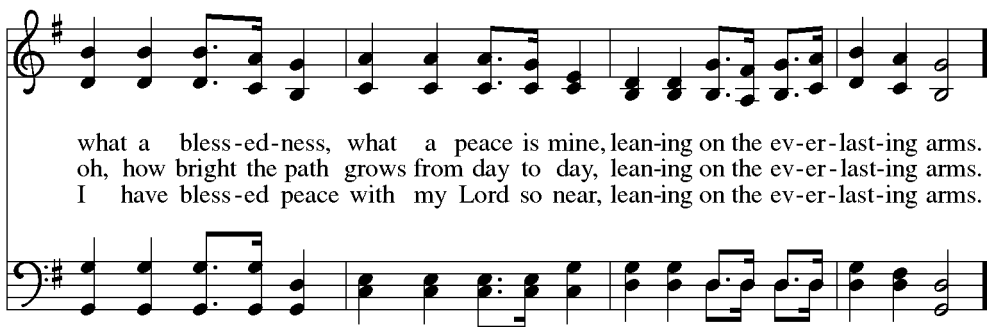
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – What A Fellowship, What a Joy Divine (WOV 780)

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;
Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.
lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✝ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**