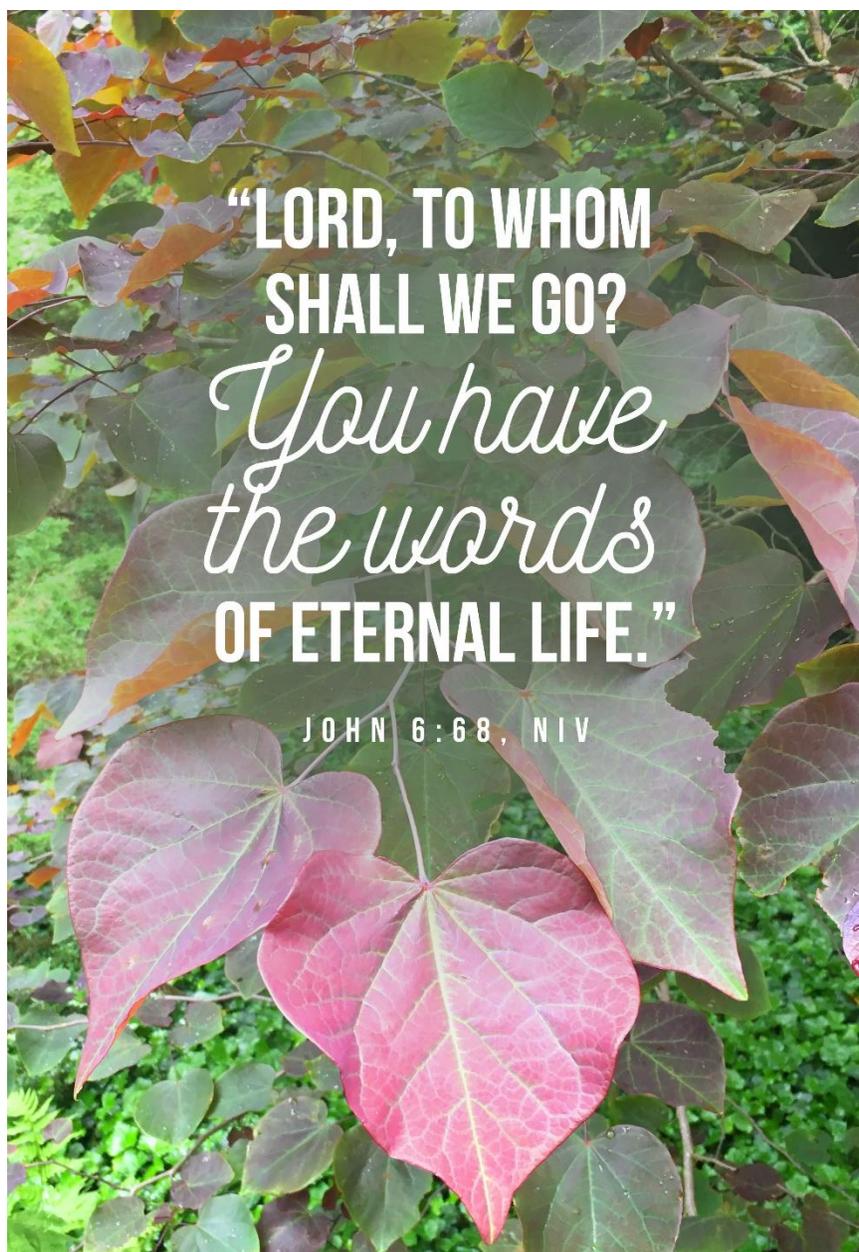


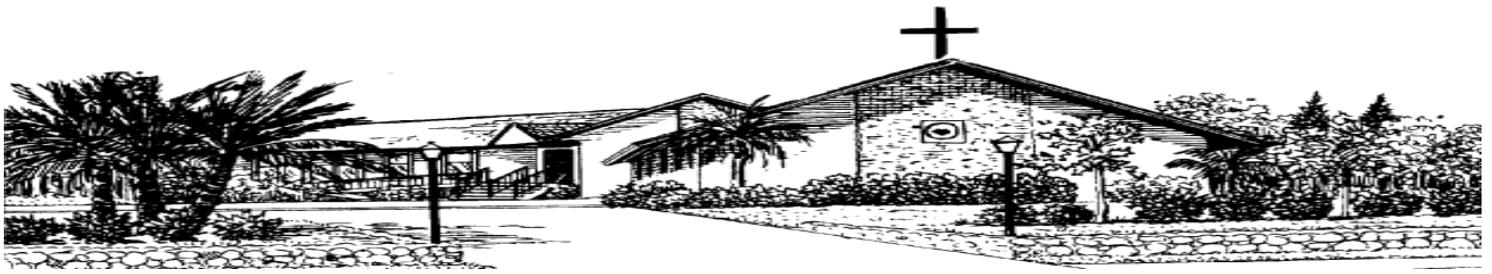
Sunday, August 22, 2021  
13th Sunday after Pentecost



**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**3751 Estero Boulevard,**  
**Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931**  
**(239) 463-4251**

[Stpeterfmb@gmail.com](mailto:Stpeterfmb@gmail.com)  
[www.stpeterfmb.com](http://www.stpeterfmb.com)

**Facebook: St. Peter Lutheran ELCA, Ft. Myers Beach**  
**YouTube: Livestreaming Sunday Service 9:30am**  
**Devotions Tuesdays & Thursdays**  
***"St Peter Lutheran Church Ft Myers Beach FL"***



**When you come through our doors, we consider you as a part of our family.** *We really mean that!* Whether you are here for a week, a month or year `round, we are delighted to have you here, and invite you to help us in doing God's work here . If you have any needs that we might be able to meet, please call our church office (239-463-4251) or speak to someone here today.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO FILL OUT THE ATTENDANCE FORM IN YOUR BULLETIN FOR CONTACT TRACING. If you would like to be added to our e-mail list, just circle your e-mail address on the form. If you would like Pastor Sharon to contact you, please write a note on the front of the form or call the office.

**The Sacrament of HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated today. All who hunger and thirst for Christ's presence are welcome to receive.

**We will pick up our Communion elements prior to being seated. Pastor will lead us in receiving the elements after the Lord's Prayer.**

St. Peter is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the Florida-Bahamas synod of the ELCA. We also support many other missions partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

**We remain seated for the entire service,**

**Throughout the service,  
the congregation reads aloud  
the bold print**

# THE GATHERING

## **Prelude/Gathering Music**

### **“Sanctuary”**

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy, tried and true;  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,

**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life**

**and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

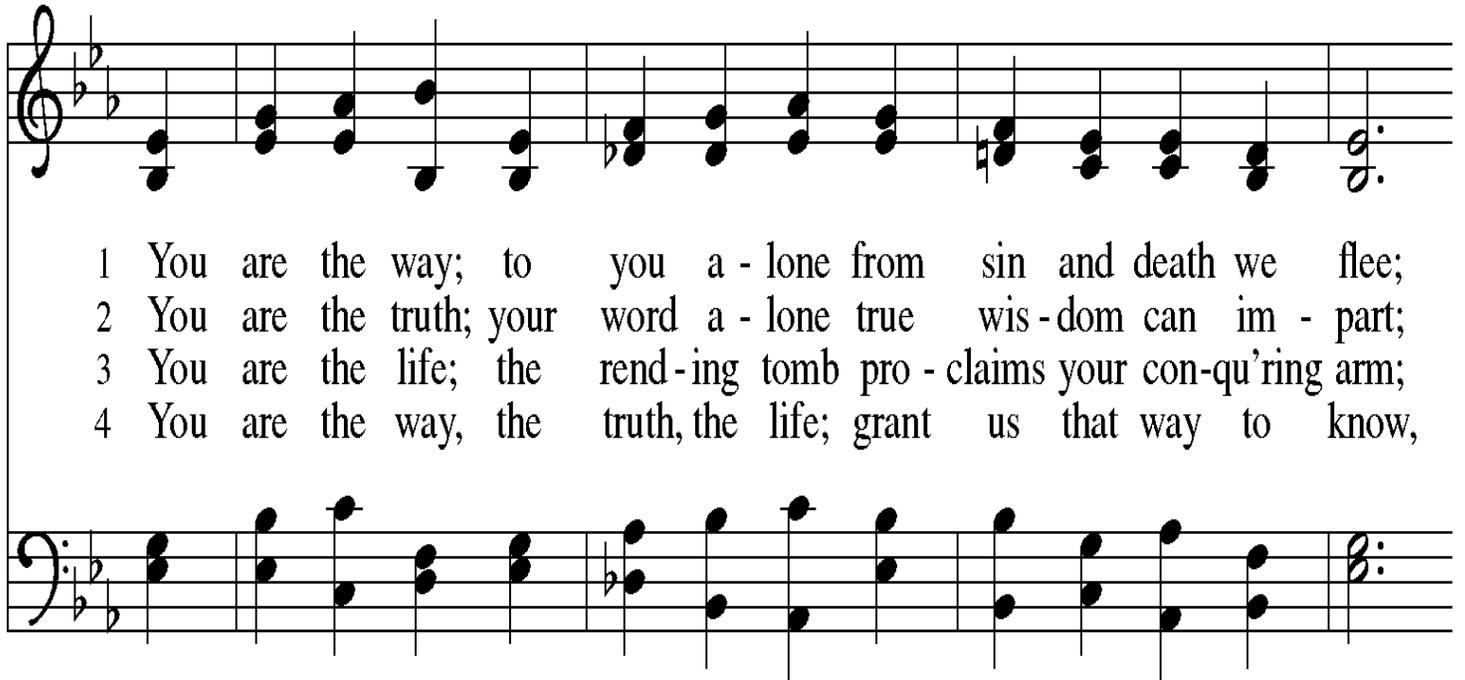
Through Jesus, the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

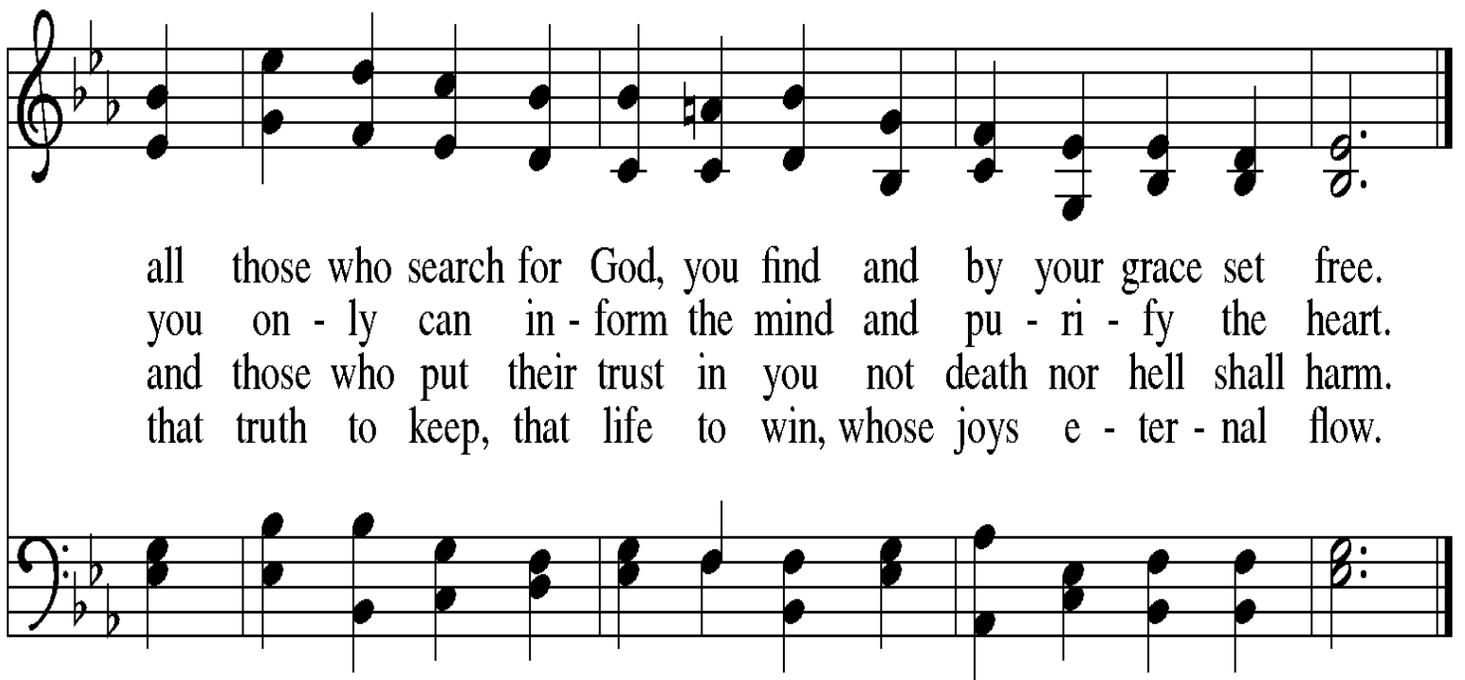
**Amen.**

Opening Hymn #758 "You Are the Way"

# You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

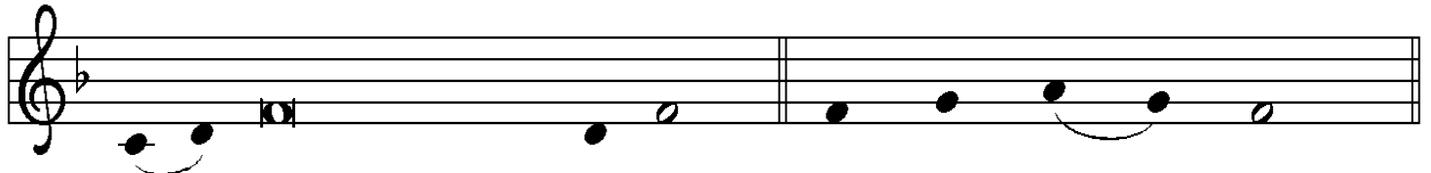
Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

## Greeting

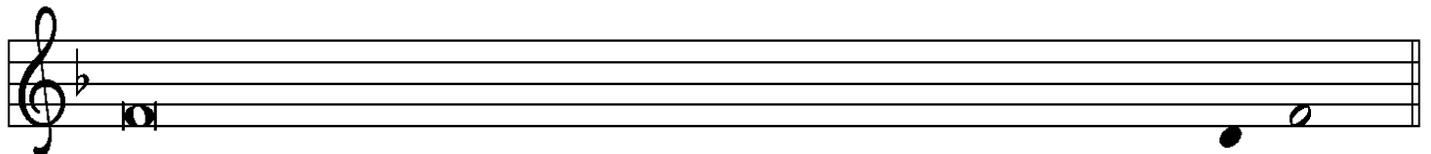
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## And also with you

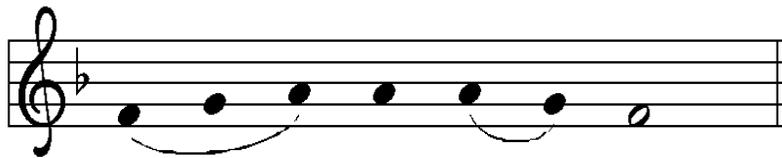
# KYRIE



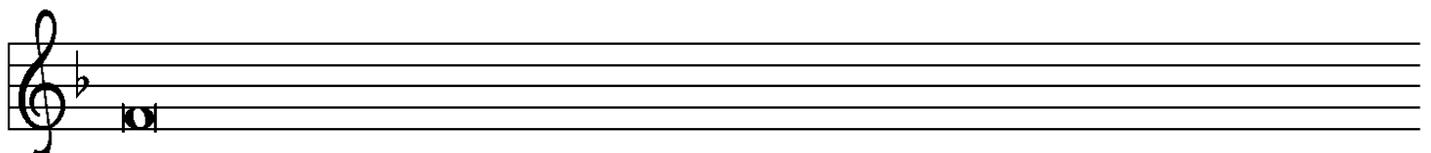
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



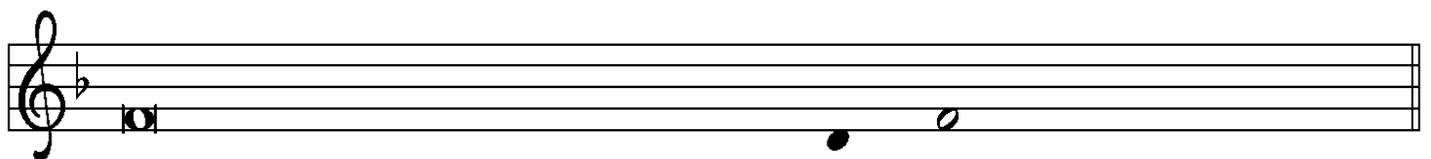
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



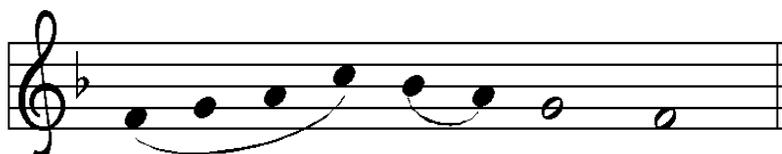
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



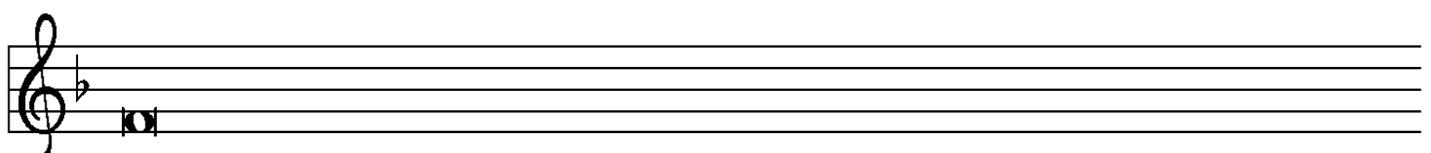
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



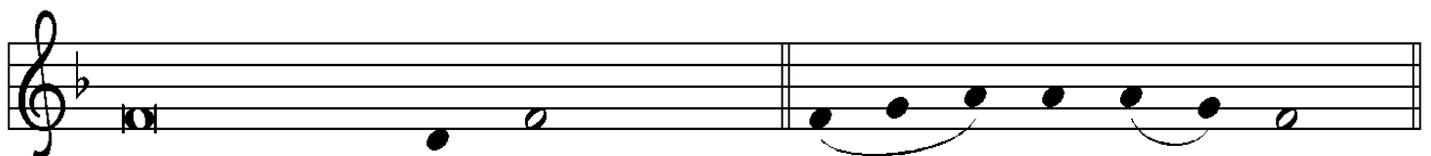
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



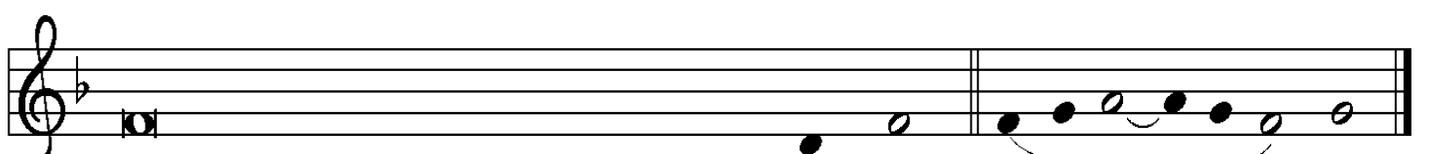
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

## Call to Worship Psalm 34

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,  
and God's ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against those who  
do evil,**

**to erase the remembrance of them from  
the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves those whose spirits are  
crushed.**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers them from every one.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe all their bones;  
not one of them shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death to the wicked  
and those who hate the righteous will be  
punished.

<sup>22</sup>O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,  
and those who put their trust in you will not be  
punished.

## Introduction to Today's Theme

### THE WORD

#### **First Lesson**      Ephesians 6:10-20

*The Lesson is from Ephesians, the 6th Chapter*

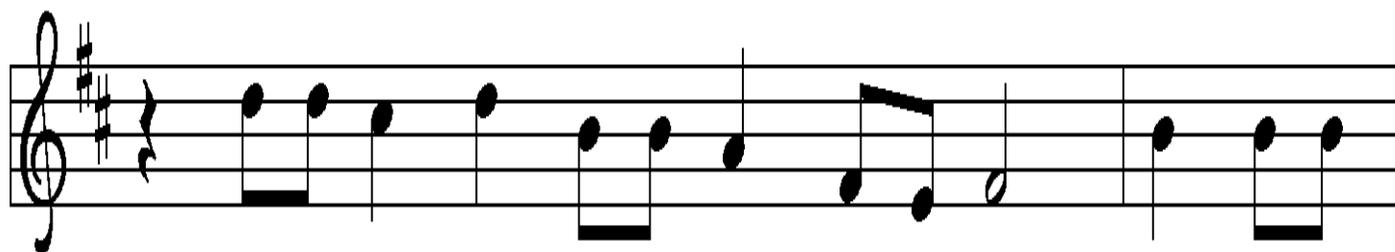
<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an

ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord

## Thanks be to God



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

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6th Chapter

### Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This 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.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said,

“This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord

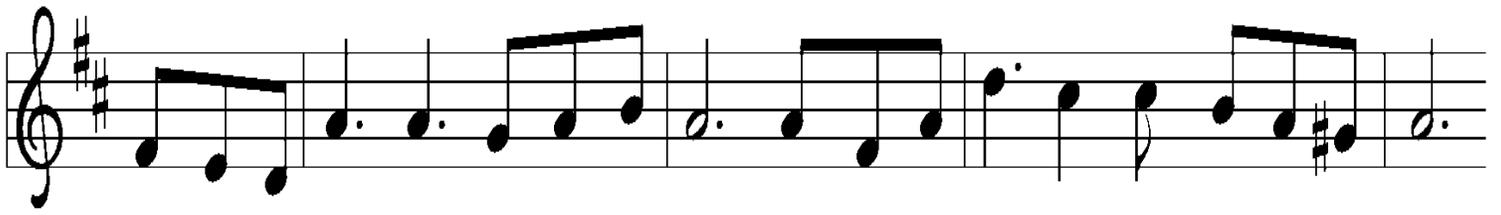
**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**      Rev. Sharon Taylor

Hymn # 638

“Blessed Assurance”

# Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

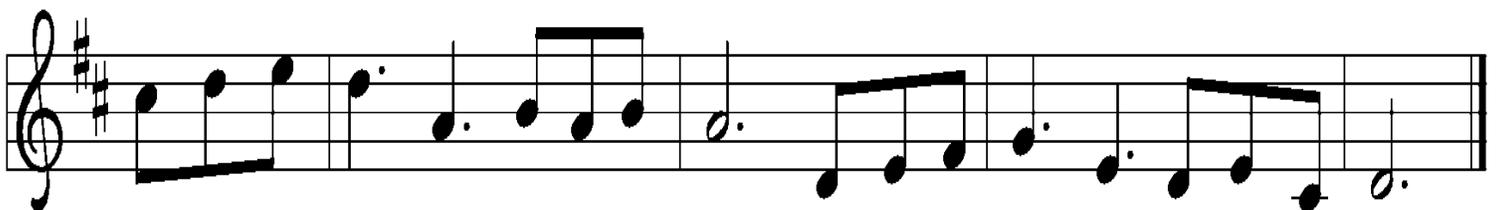


Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

## *Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

## **Apostles' Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the triune God through the words of the Apostles' 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 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 the People**

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

(After each petition, the congregation will respond with "**hear our prayer.**")

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. We pray especially for all those on our prayer list and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## THE MEAL

### **Offering Prayer**

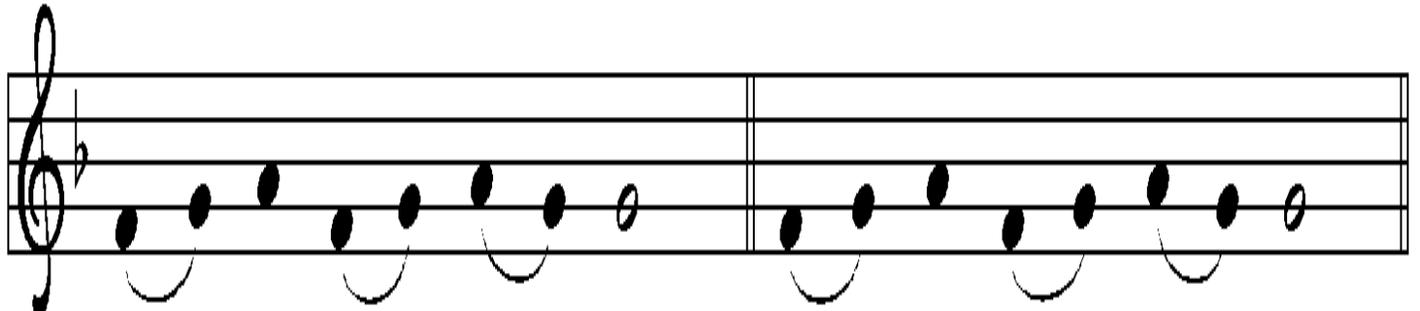
Jesus, Bread of life,  
you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us,  
and strengthen us in this meal.

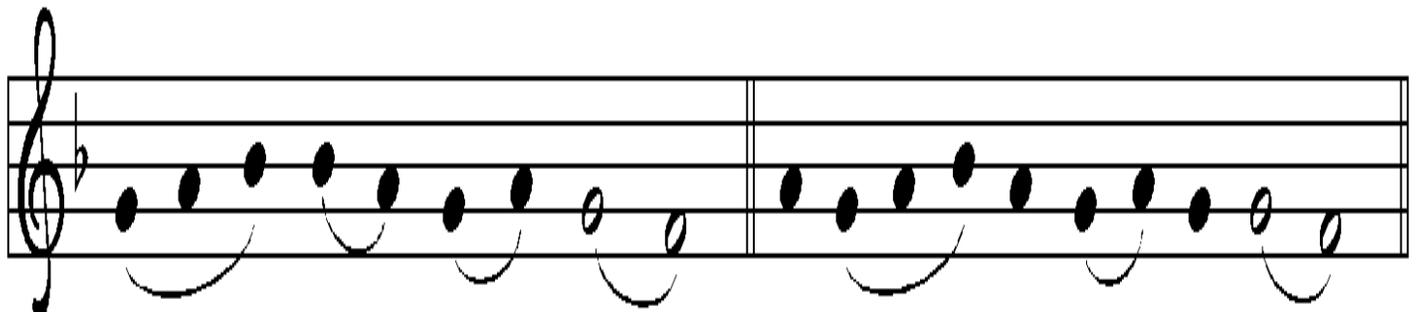
Make us to be what we receive here,  
your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**

# Great Thanksgiving



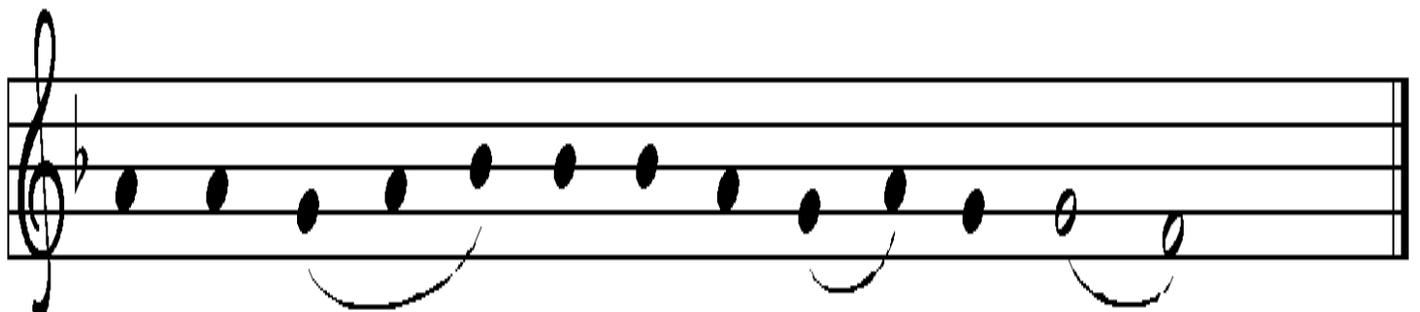
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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.

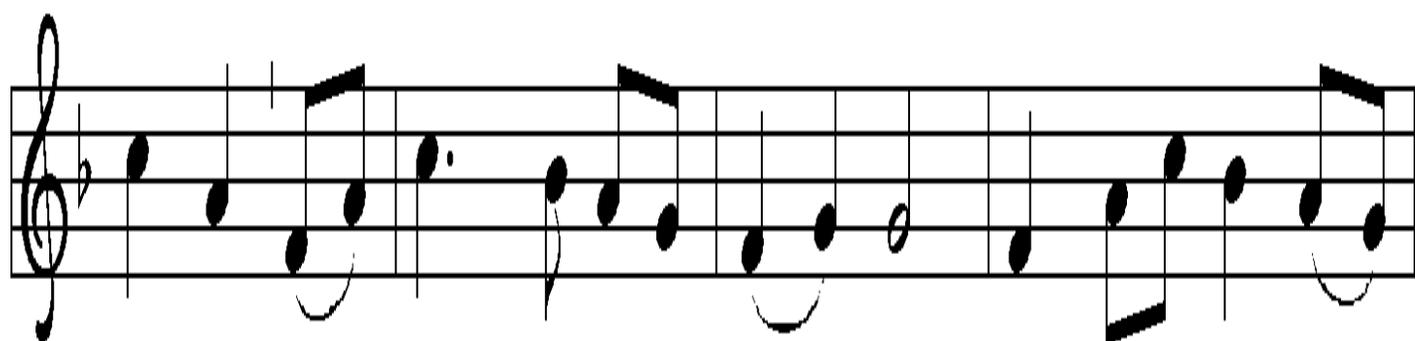
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . . .  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn



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.

## Words of Institution

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

## 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.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

## **Time of Meditation**

### **Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his Grace.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Jesus, Bread of life,  
we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world  
with your own life.  
In your name we pray.  
**Amen.**

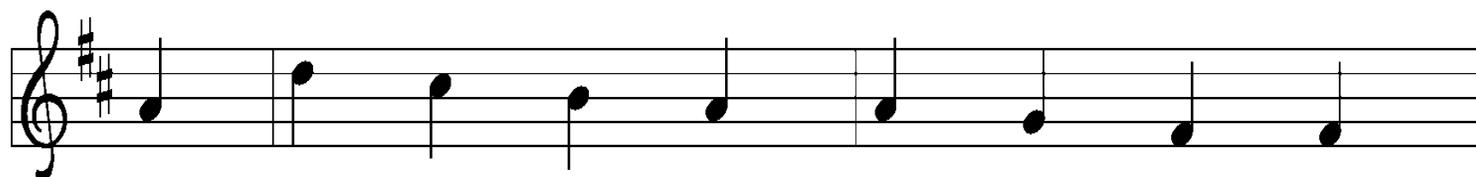
## **THE SENDING**

### **Blessing**

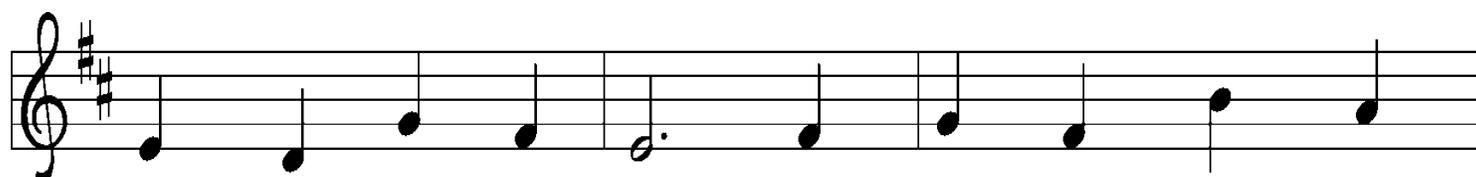
The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Closing Hymn #620 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

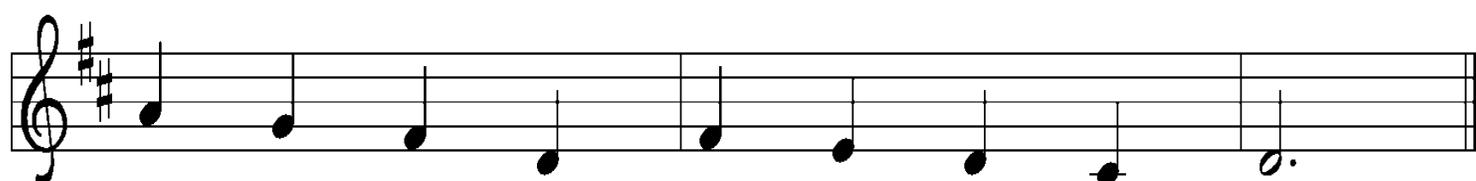
# How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in  
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and  
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my  
4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain al -



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the  
shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing  
though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.  
hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.  
treas - ury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.  
me in vain, and I am owned a child.

5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,  
my prophet, priest, and king,  
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
accept the praise I bring.

6 How weak the effort of my heart,  
how cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.

7 Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath;  
and may the music of thy name  
refresh my soul in death!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: St. PETER, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877

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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SERVING TODAY**

|                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor                       | Rev. Sharon Taylor    |
| Assistant                    | Joyce Burr            |
| Music Director/Choir & Organ | Jim Kreger            |
| Artist In Residence          | Shirley Roe           |
| Ushers                       | George & Donna Albert |
| Digital Ministry Coordinator | Deacon Lisa Miller    |
| Audio                        | Jim Markusen          |