

Sunday, September 26, 2021
18th Sunday after Pentecost



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

Pastor – Rev. Sharon Taylor

Stpeterfmb@gmail.com
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 mission 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,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us
with an open heart.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

Opening Hymn #636 How Small our Span of Life

How Small Our Span of Life



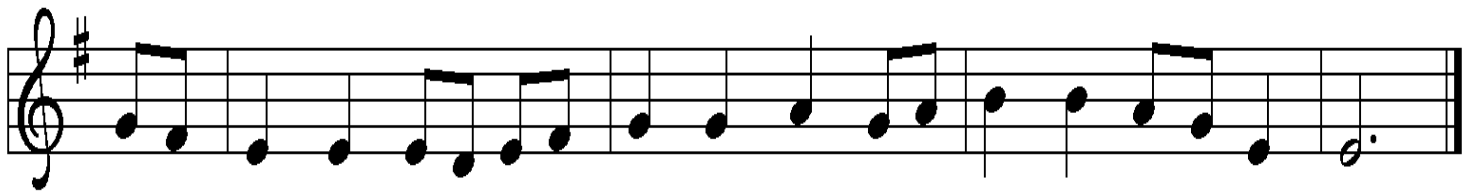
1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch-ing of a breath,
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos-mic space,
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass-ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans-cend.
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: KINGSFOLD, English traditional

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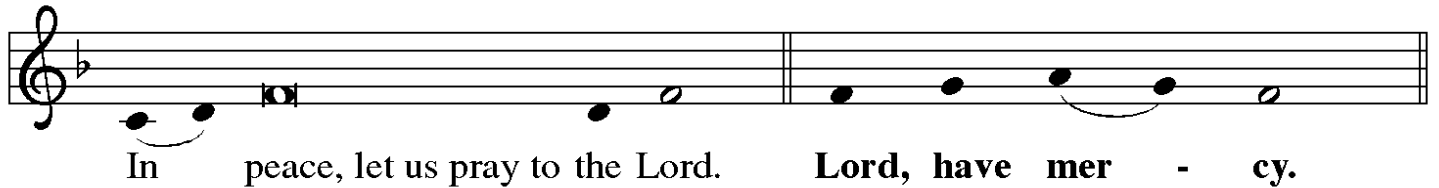
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Greeting

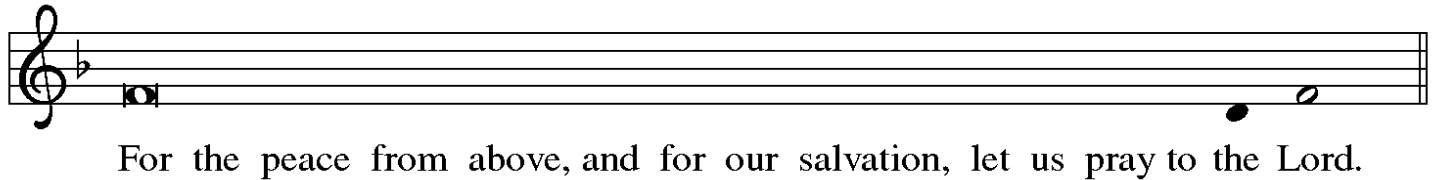
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you

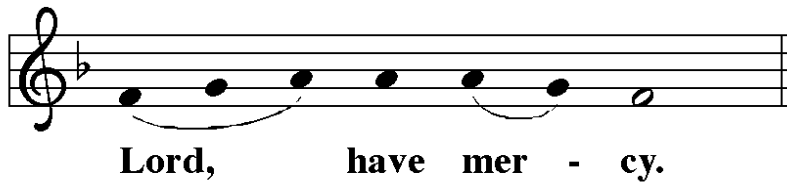
KYRIE



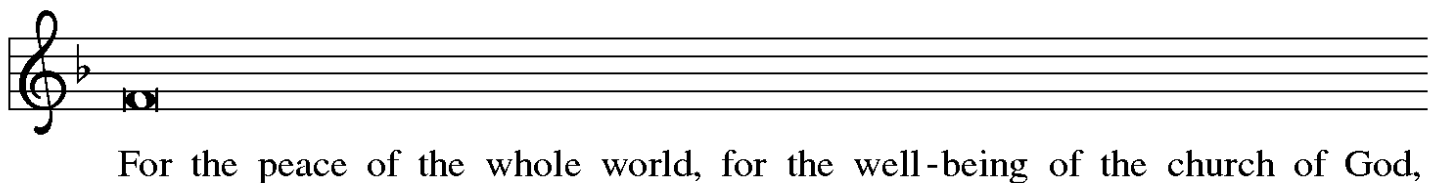
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



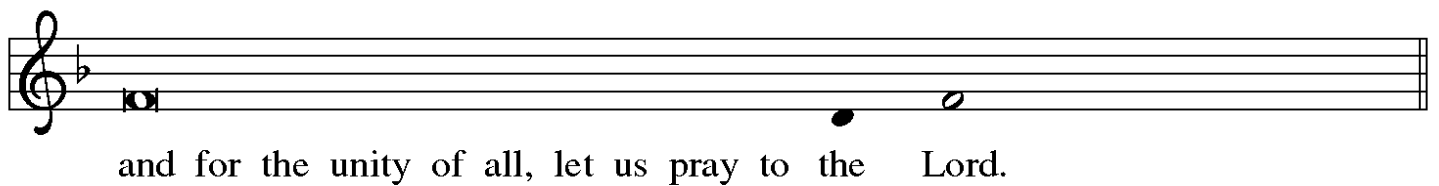
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



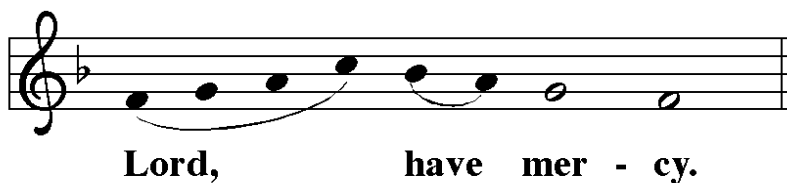
Lord, have mer - cy.



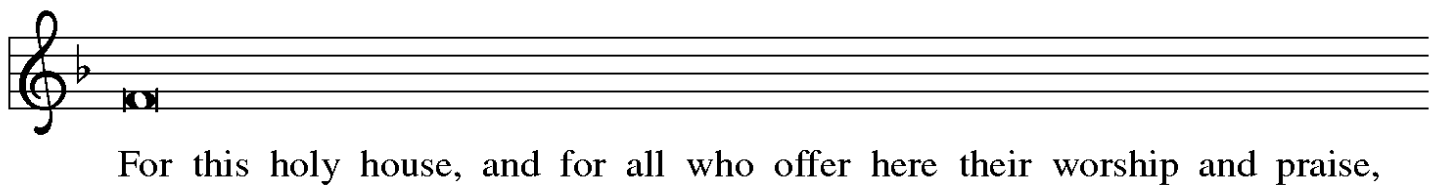
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



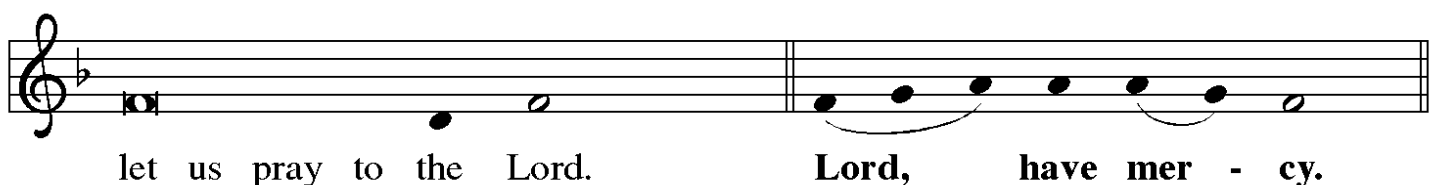
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Call to Worship Psalm 19

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,

sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Introduction to Today's Theme

THE WORD

First Lesson James 5:13-20

The Lesson is from James, the 5th Chapter

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray.

Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of

praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call

for the elders of the church and have them pray

over them, anointing them with oil in the name of

the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick,

and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who

has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore

confess your sins to one another, and pray for one

another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of

the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was

a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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 Mark, the 9th Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord

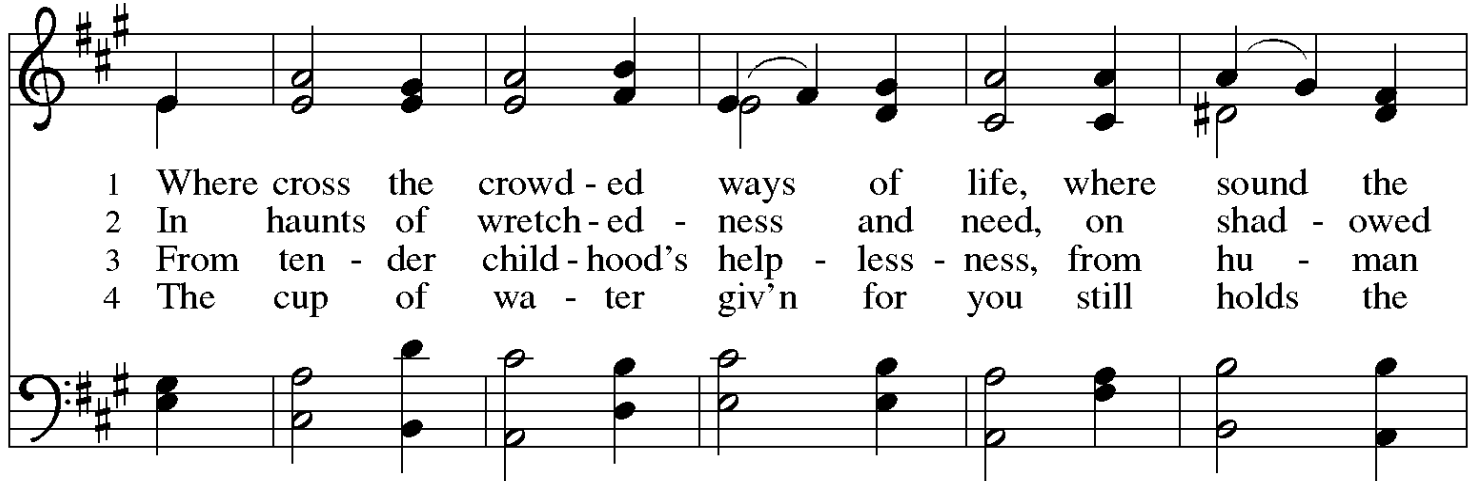
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

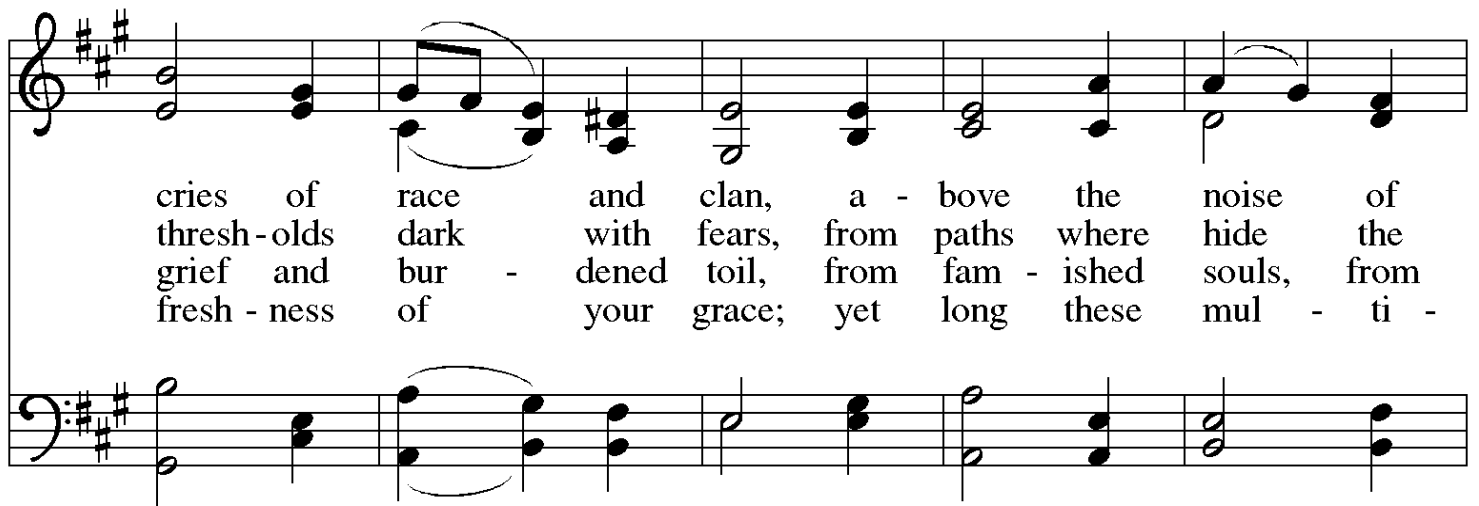
Rev. Sharon Taylor

Hymn #719 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

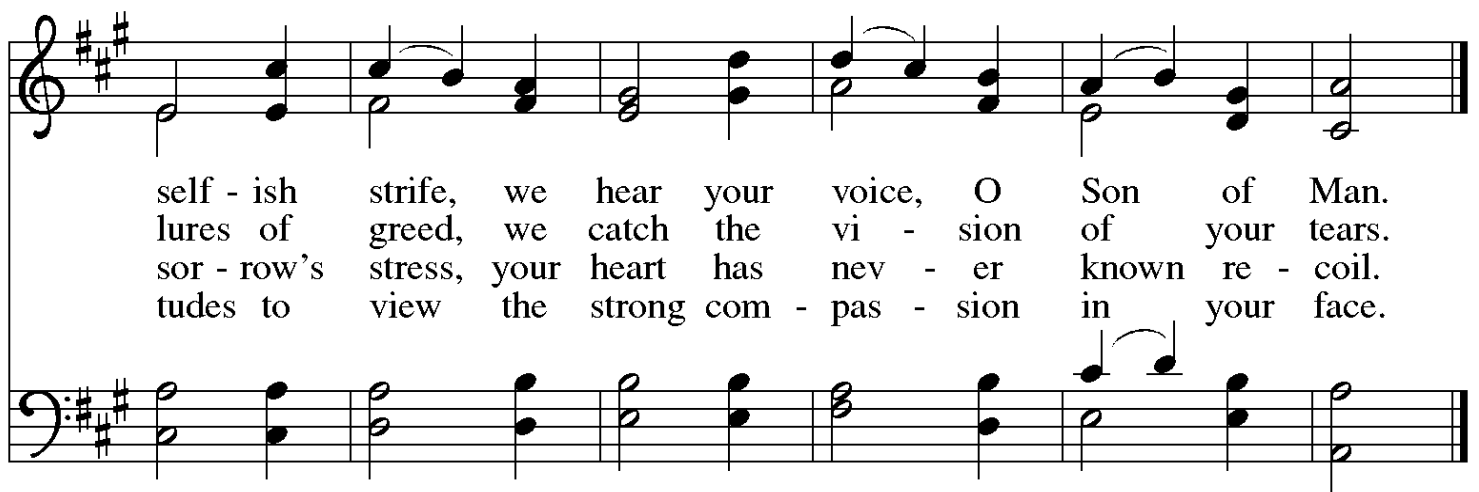
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav'n above
shall come the city of our God.

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.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

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

We pray for natural wonders of your creation. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy,

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. We pray for all those on our prayer list and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, acolytes, and ushers. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy,

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. 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

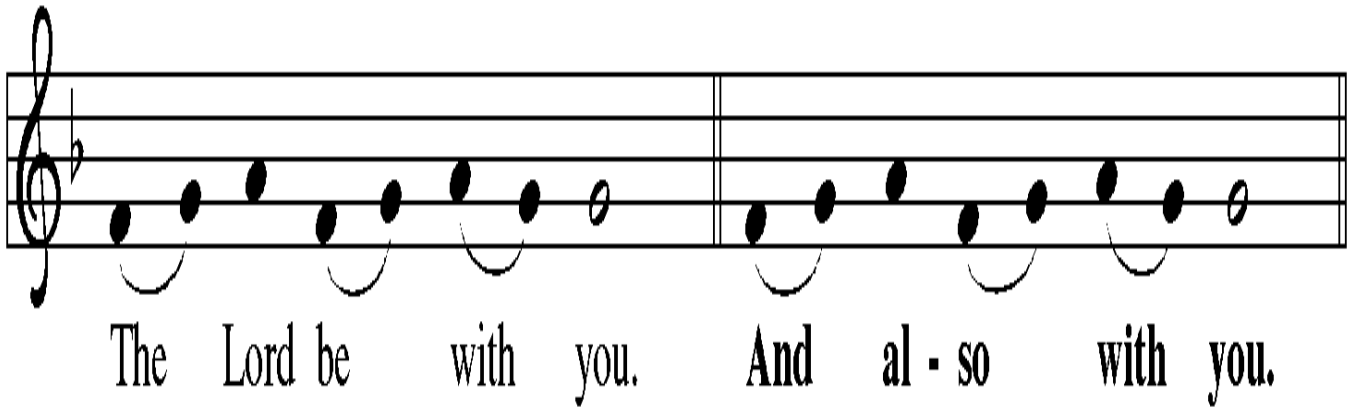
Offering Prayer

God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.

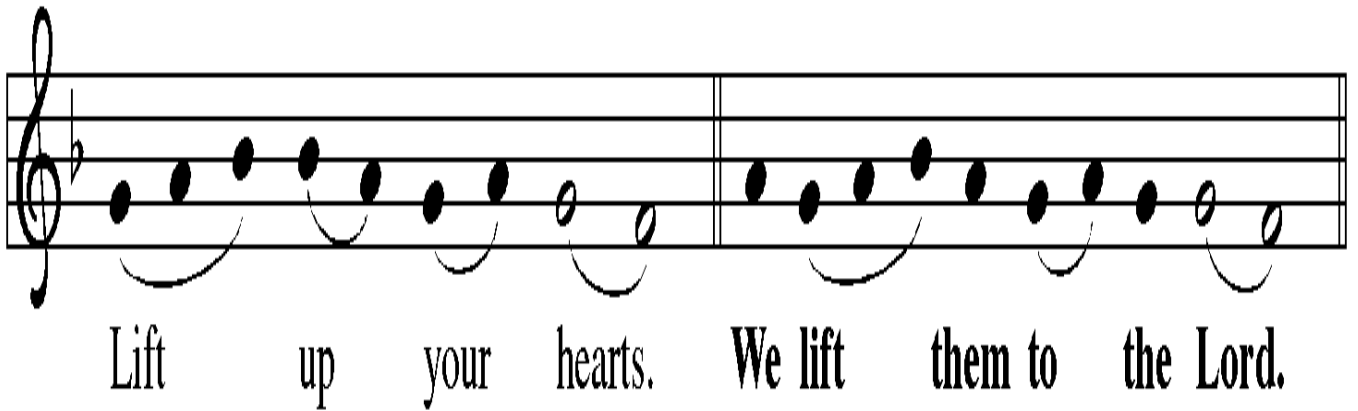
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

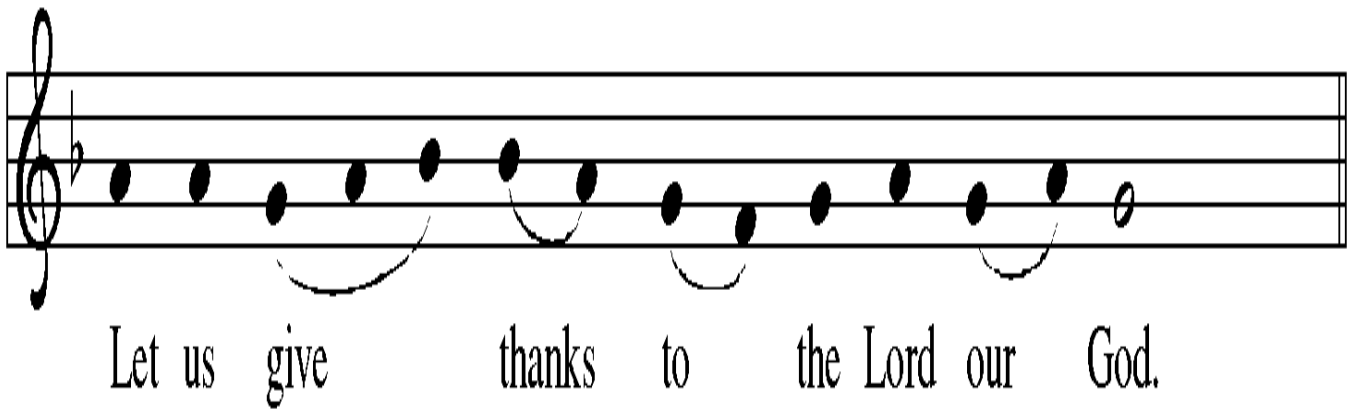
Great Thanksgiving



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.

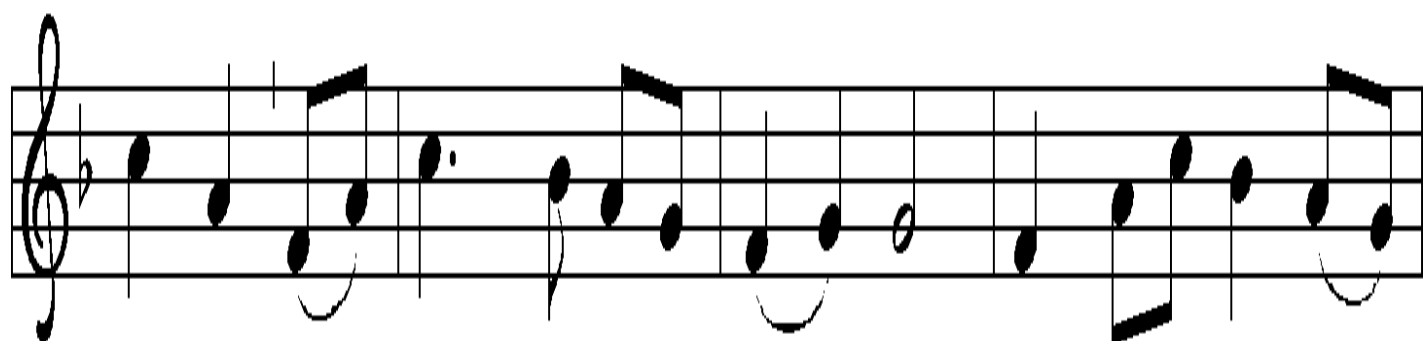
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
we praise your name and join their unending hymn



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

All who hunger and thirst, come.
The table is ready.

Time of Meditation

Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of
salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

Blessing

People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn # 786 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

O Holy Spirit, Enter In



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your
2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



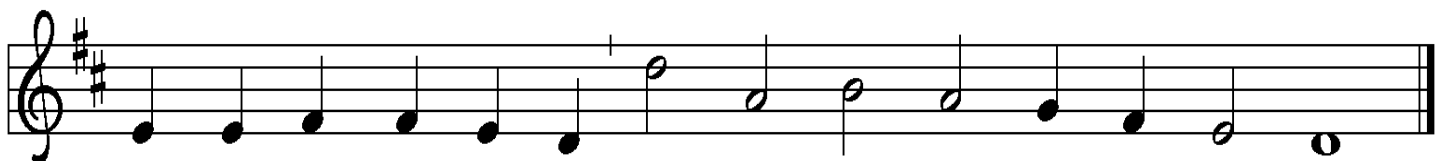
work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,
nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -
doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength
fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -
ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is
ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some
true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.
to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.
pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you
Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY

Pastor

Rev. Sharon Taylor

Assistant

Bob 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