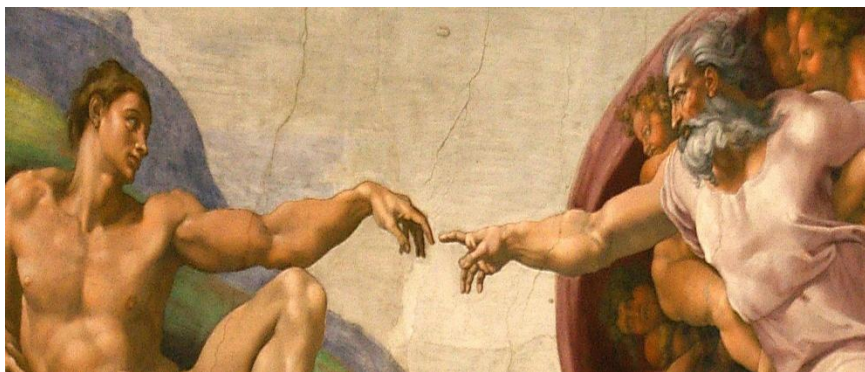


TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN PENTECOST

October 18, 2026
8:00 & 10:30 AM



Gathering Hymn.....There is a Longing In Our Hearts
Hymn of the Day.....O Jesus, I Have Promised (810)
Communion.....Come, Let Us Eat (491)
Amazing Grace, How Sweet
the Sound (779)
Sending Hymn.....Shout to the Lord (821)

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In God's Grace, Ascension Creates Faithful Community.

Prelude “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” Bell Choir
American Spiritual arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

Announcements

Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

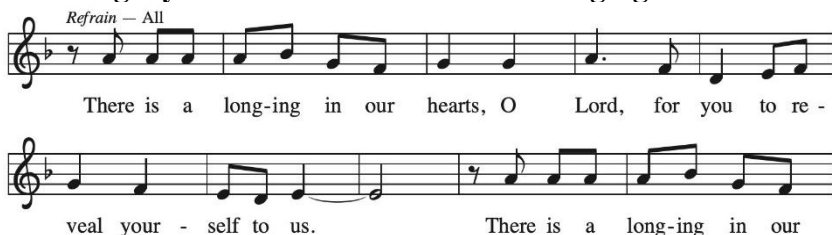
Compassionate God,
we confess how we’ve failed to embody your goodness in the world and with one another. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain relationships. Indifference stalls justice. Divisions limit love. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Forgiveness

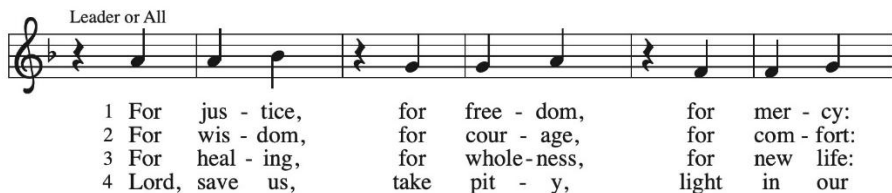
Gathering Hymn

There is a Longing In Our Hearts

Refrain — All



There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re -
veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our



Text: Anne Quigley, b. 1955

Music: LONGING, Anne Quigley

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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

(Cantor sings the petitions, congregation joins in the refrain.)



☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



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



Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. ☐ 1. For the
☐ 2. For your



reign of God, and for peace through - out the
peo - ple here who have come to give you



world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the



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



☐ Help, save, and de -
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.



fend us, O God: ☐ A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast, this is the feast, this is the feast of



vic - to - ry for our God, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



ia.

ia.

ia.

Verse 1



Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God,



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and

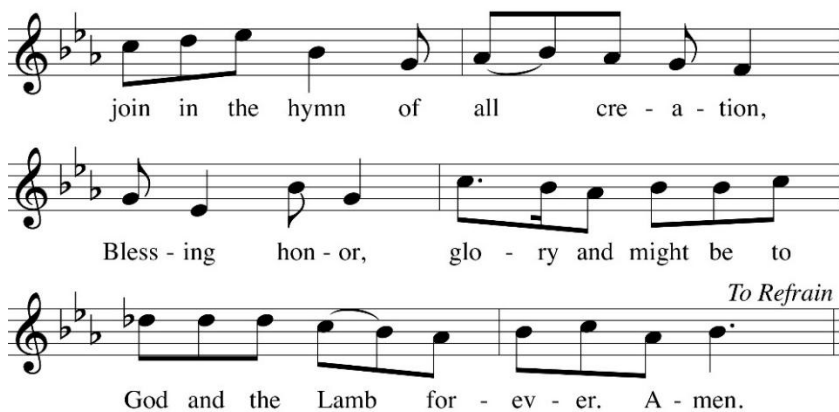


hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Verse 2



Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



Prayer of the Day

God of deliverance,

you saved the people of Israel and led them to the Promised Land. By your Spirit, help us appreciate all that you have done for us and respond with love and good deeds in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Bell Choir “How Firm a Foundation” Joseph Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832, arr. Tammy Walldrop

Reading

Joshua 24:1-8, 14-22

¹ Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. ² And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ³ Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac, ⁴ and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. ⁵ Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst, and afterward I brought you out. ⁶ When I brought your ancestors out of Egypt, you came to the sea, and the

Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. ⁷ When they cried out to the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians and made the sea come upon them and cover them, and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt. Afterward you lived in the wilderness a long time. ⁸ Then I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they fought with you, and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I destroyed them before you.

¹⁴ “Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶ Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, ¹⁷ for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, ¹⁸ and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

¹⁹ But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰ If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good.” ²¹ And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” ²² Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 105: 1-11

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.

Sing to the LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.
 Glory in God's holy name;
 let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Search for the strength of the LORD;
continually seek God's face.
 Remember the marvels God has done,
 the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.
 The LORD is our God,
 whose judgments prevail in all the world,
who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:
 the covenant made with Abraham,
 the oath sworn to Isaac,
which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
 saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
 to be your allotted inheritance."

+ Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? For

you have the words, you have the words, the words of e -

ter - nal life, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:23-25, 5:14-16

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. ²⁴ So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them. ²⁵ And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Dan Holt

Hymn of the Day

O Jesus, I Have Promised (810)

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

+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 into hell.
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

Trusting in God's abundant love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

(a brief silence)

After each petition:

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Melvin Allen, Norma Brennand, Bill Broderick, Dorothy Carlson, Markel Ewing, Leslie Giordano, Marilyn Gulliksen, Amy Harrison, Ralph Hathaway, Matt Hayes, Keith Hedstrom, Ginger Johnson, Julie Lindeman, Wayne McCray, Winona Sleater, Marilyn Thompson, Steve Tompkins, Juanita Vanlandingham, Alicia Weatherly, all our men and women serving overseas including Anthony Calderon, Zacary Cotton, and all others we lift up to you at this time.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.



Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.



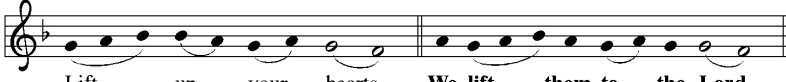
Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.

Offering Prayer

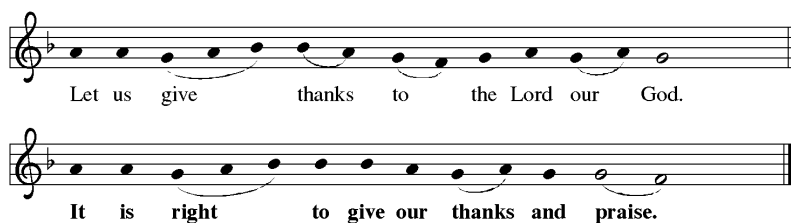
Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
The Great Thanksgiving



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



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



The Preface to the Sanctus

It is indeed right ... and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

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, ho -
 san-na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,
 bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Holy God.

You created stars and galaxies.

You filled the world with wonder and life.

You placed us in your garden to tend the earth and be at home.

Blessed are you, O God.

Blessed are you, Holy God.

You liberated the captives.

You formed your people and called them your beloved.

You opened your heart to us through Jesus, so that we, too might become your people.

Blessed are you, O God. Amen.

In the night in which he was betrayed ...

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

(Cantor sings. Congregation repeats.)



☐ Christ has died. Christ is ris-en.

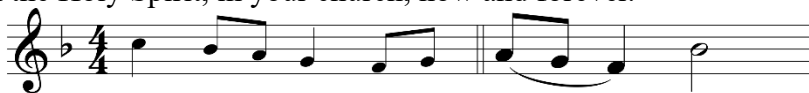


Christ will come a - gain. ☐ Christ has died.

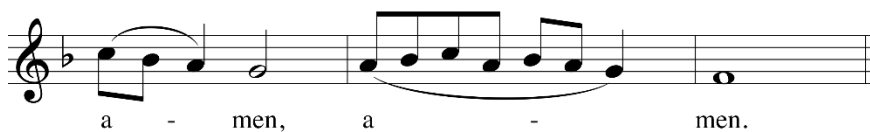


Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Holy God, holy and merciful, receive our prayers and praise as Jesus received the cries of the poor and renew us by your Spirit, until your mercy mends all that sin has torn and we feast forever in the company of Jesus through whom all glory and honor is yours, with the Holy Spirit, in your church, now and forever.



☐ A - men,



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

For those worshiping in the sanctuary, come forward to the altar to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free bread and white grape juice are available.

God's love and this meal are for all, including children. If your child is not ready to receive, they may receive a simple blessing such as "May the Lord bless you and keep you."

For those worshiping at home, when invited by the pastor we encourage you to eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you.

Lamb of God





Communion

Come, Let Us Eat (491)

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1–3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (779)

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

The Communion Blessing

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Shout to the Lord (821)

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

Benediction

Amen.

Sending

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

J. S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox

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Thank you to Tom Johnson for this week's altar flower for Darcy Johnson.

We remember Margie Schlaufman on the anniversary of her death and join Charlie in giving thanks for her in the midst of ongoing grief.

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THOSE SERVING ASCENSION'S WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers: 8:00- Craig Kelly, Brad Chewakin, Cheryle Fritsch,
Glenda Kelly

10:30- Seth Baun, Stephanie Shannon

Worship Deacon: 8:00- Terri Moore **10:30-** Donna Crump

Lector: 8:00- Wini Klein **10:30-** Steve Eldridge

Cantor: Megan Miller

Communion Assistant: 8:00- Katie Johnson **10:30-** Sherry Seever

Communion Bread: Sylvia Holt

Communion Prep: Cindy & Rich Gaona

Communion Clean Up: Helen Illian

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Dan Holt Pastor Daniel Smith

Office Administrator.....Ruth Albrent-Runnells

Director of Children's Learning Center.....Alicia Kury

Youth Director.....Tom Johnson

MUSIC MINISTRY

Church Musician.....Scott Christiansen
Church Musician.....Isaiah Grip
Children's Choir Director.....Megan Miller
