

"He sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."
35 And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly"

Mark 7:34-35

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

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Lord of Life Liturgy [Dr. Bradley C. Hunnicutt]

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Prelude

Joys & Concerns

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C. Amen

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P. God our comforter:

C. 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.

P. 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.

C. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

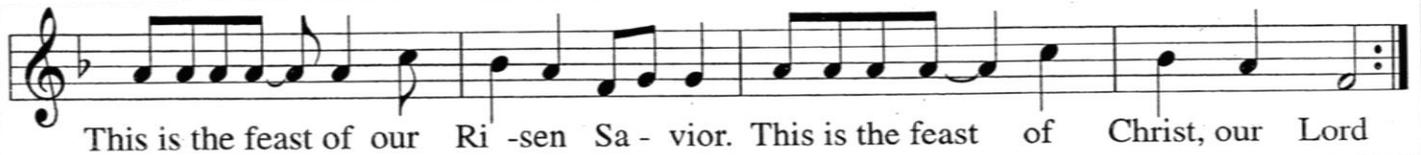
Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

ELW 519

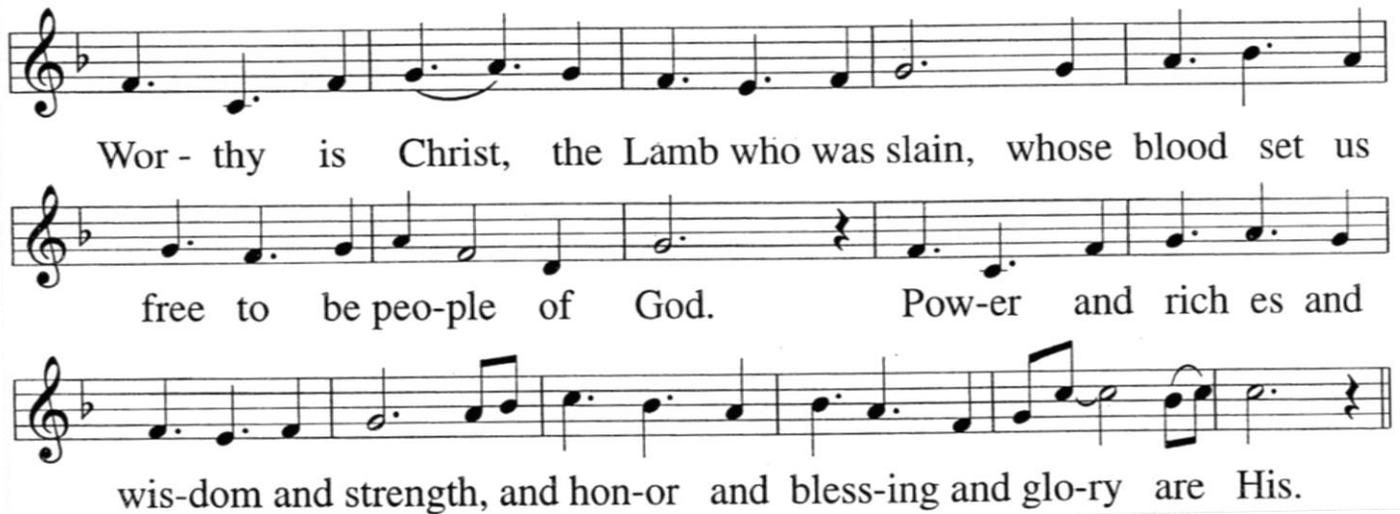
P. Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. And also with you

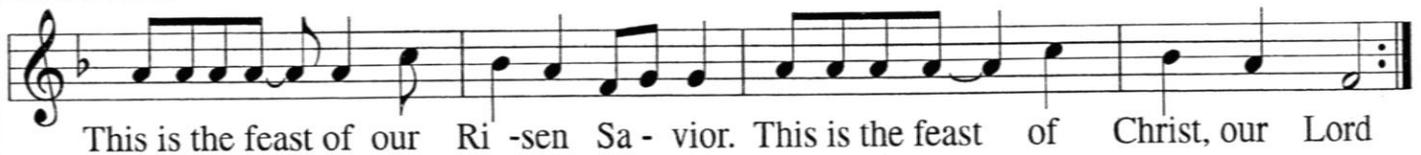
This is the Feast



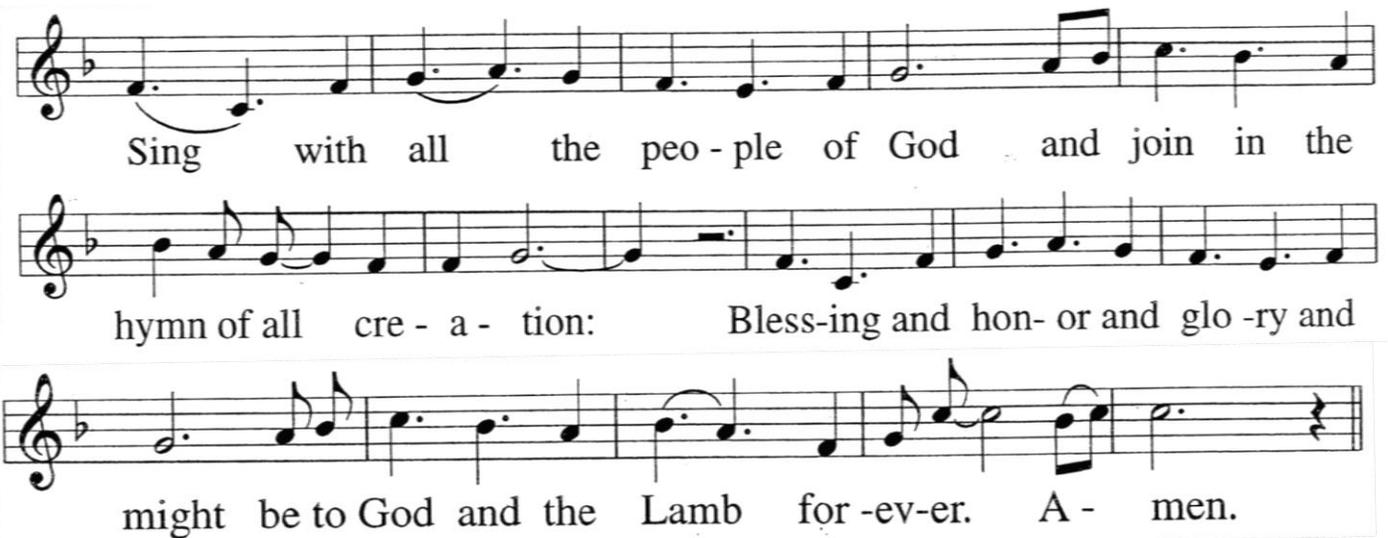
This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior. This is the feast of Christ, our Lord



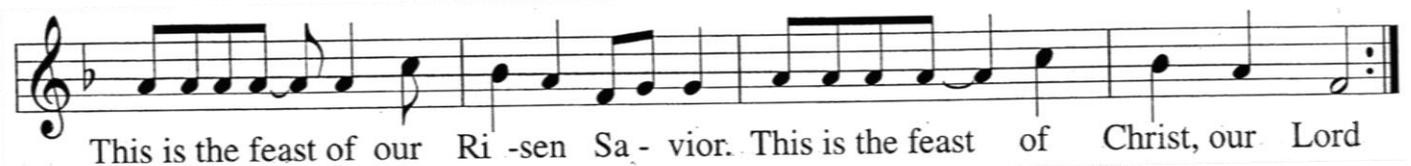
Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich es and wis-dom and strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are His.



This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior. This is the feast of Christ, our Lord



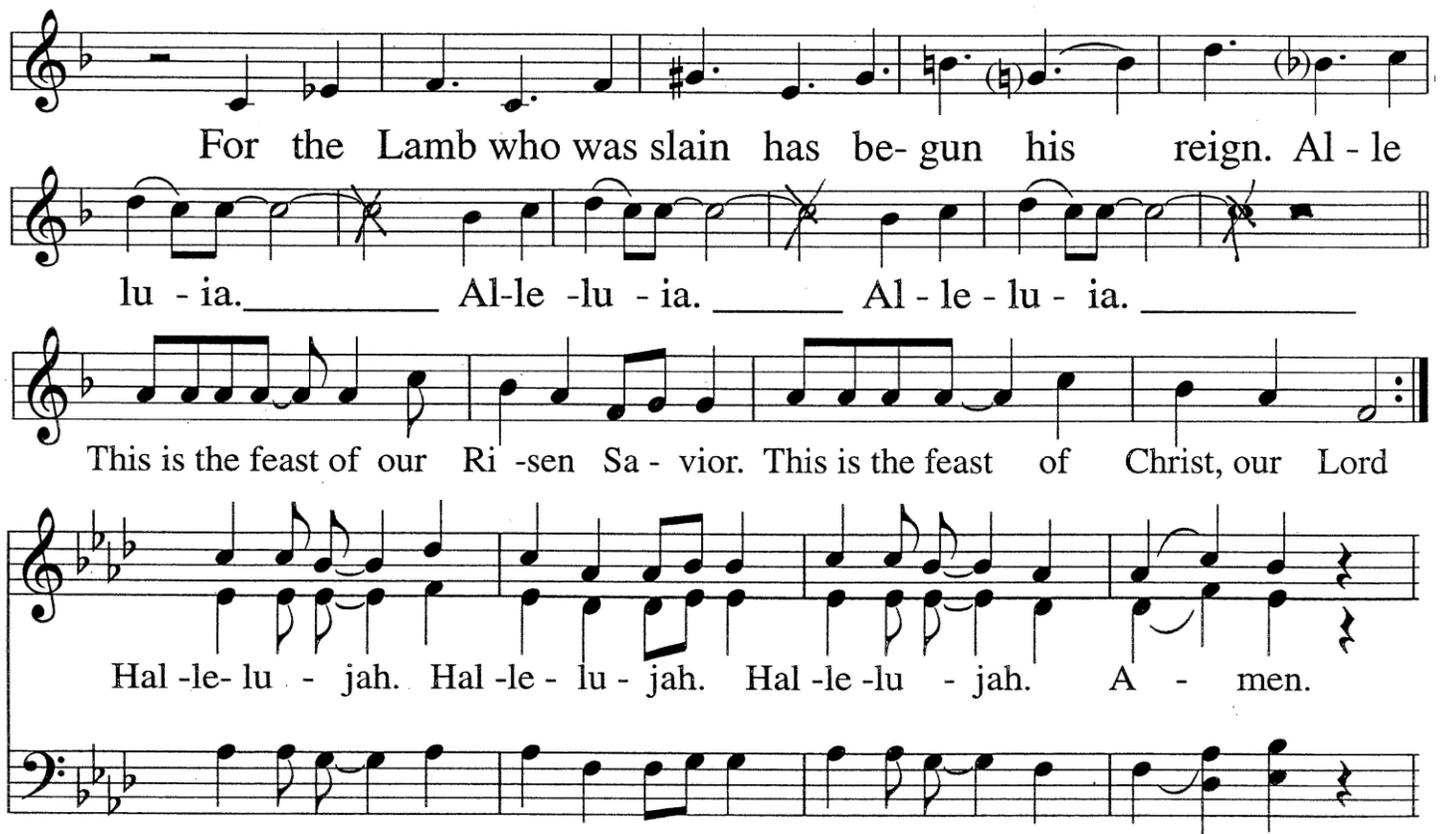
Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and might be to God and the Lamb for -ev-er. A - men.



This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior. This is the feast of Christ, our Lord

P. This is indeed the feast of our Risen Savior . . .

. . . And His glorious resurrection has indeed become the Lord of Life!



For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le
lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior. This is the feast of Christ, our Lord

Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. A - men.



Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. A - men. A - men.



This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior. This is the feast of
Christ, our Lord. This is the feast of our Ri - sen Sa - vior
This is the feast of Christ our Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray

C. **Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

L. Word of God. Word of life.

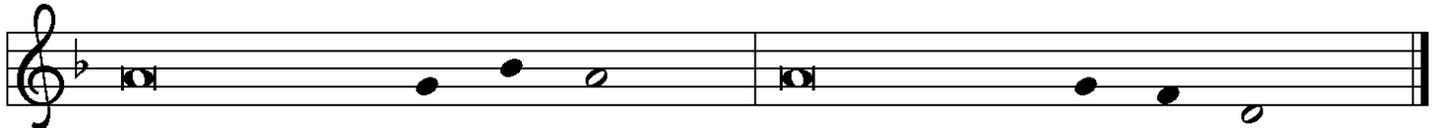
C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody

Psalm 146

(tone #9)

chanted responsively



Hal-^l lelujah!

Praise the LORD,^l O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long^l as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I^l have my being.

Put not your^l trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there^l is no help.

When they breathe their last, they re-^l turn to earth,

and in that day^l their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob^l for their help,

whose hope is in the^l LORD their God;

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that^l is in them;

who keeps promis-^l es forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to^l those who hunger.

The LORD sets the cap-^l tive free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who^l are bowed down;

the LORD^l loves the righteous.

The LORD cares^l for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way^l of the wicked.

The LORD shall^l reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.^l Hallelujah!

Second Reading

James 2:1-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

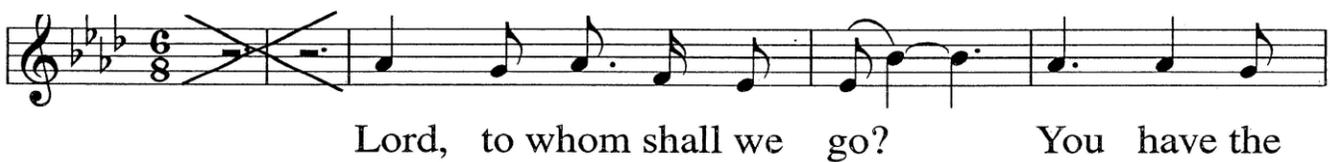
L. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. 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.

P. The Holy Gospel according to Mark, chapter Seven.

Mark 7:24-37

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."



P. The Gospel of the Lord



Sermon "End of Summer Wisdom from Proverbs" Pastor Wayne Dubnansky

Apostle's Creed



I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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,
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. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

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

C. Amen.

The Peace

P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.



The Offering

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 188

Offertory Prayer

- A. 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.
- C. Amen

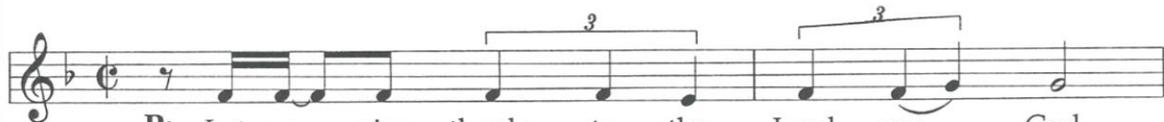
The Great Thanksgiving



P: The Lord be with you. **C:** And al- so with you.



P: Lift up your hearts. **C:** We lift them to the Lord.

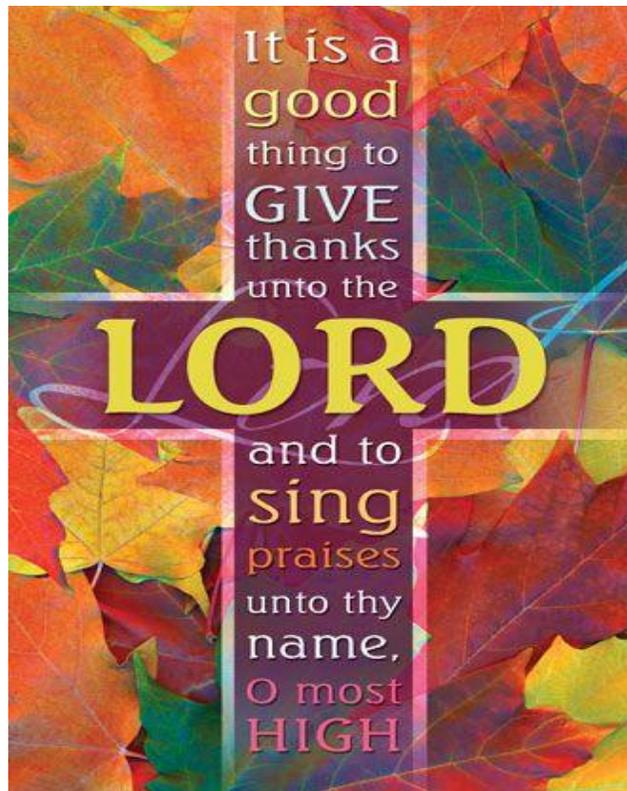


P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

- P.** It is indeed right and salutary ...
join in 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 -
slower san - na in the high - est. *a tempo* Bless - ed, bless - ed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est

Words of Institution



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

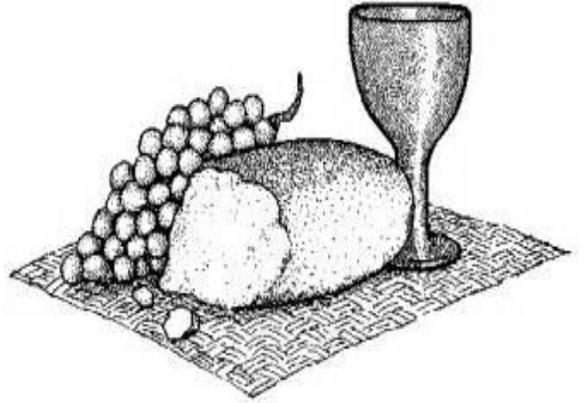
Invitation to Communion

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

C. Amen.

P. The body of Christ broken for you. (Congregants eat the bread.)

P. The blood of Christ shed for you. (Congregants drink the wine.)



Lamb of God

slowly

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer-cy, have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, bear-er of our sins, have mer-cy, have mercy on us.

Je - sus, re-deem-er of the world, give us your peace.

Communion Hymns

We Come to You for Healing, Lord
Now the Silence
O Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW 617
ELW 460
ELW 480

Post Communion Blessing and Canticle



The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "P: The bo - dy and blood of our Lord Je - sus Christ streng-then you and keep you in His grace. C: A-men. Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry - one what God has done. Let ev'-ry - one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peop - ple forth in joy with shouts, with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia." The word "Amen" is underlined in the original score. The word "Alleluia" is written in a larger, stylized font at the end of the piece, with a double underline underneath it.

P: The bo - dy and blood of our Lord Je - sus Christ
streng-then you and keep you in His grace. C: A-men.
Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry - one what
God has done. Let ev'-ry - one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name.
He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peop - ple
forth in joy with shouts, with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al -
le - lu - ia.

Al-le-lu-ia!

Post Communion Prayer

P. 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.

C. Amen.

Benedictus

Presider
The Lord bless you and keep you. The

Congregation
The Lord bless you and keep you, too.
Lord make his face shine on you and be gra-cious to
The Lord make his face shine on you
you. The Lord look up-on you with fa-vor and
and be gra-cious to you. The
give you peace. A - men.
Lord look up-on you with fa - vor and give you peace. A - men.

Sending Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW 858

Dismissal

- A. Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Servers for Sunday, September 5th

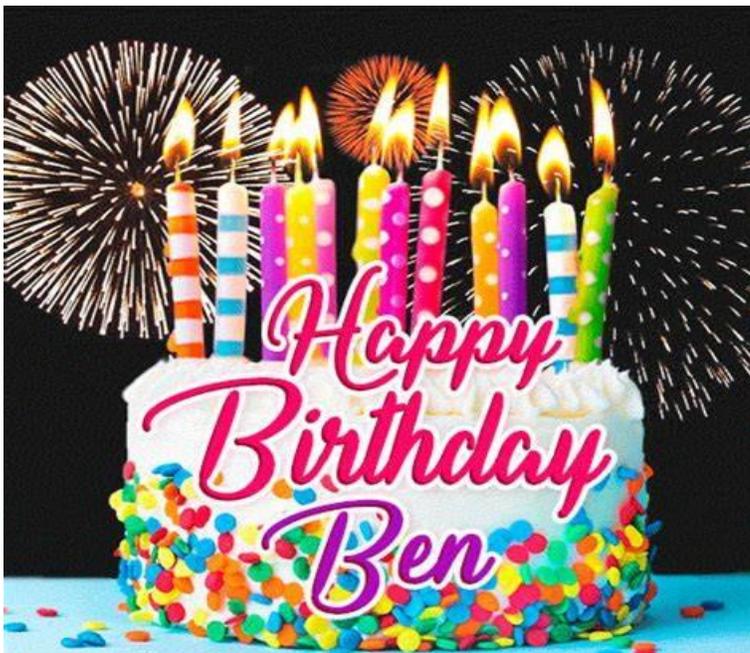
Assisting Minister Sylvia Lambert
Reader
Altar Guild Sylvia Lambert
Greeters/Counters Linda Garoutte / Tess Andrews
Acolyte Antonio Smith

Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.

Candles for the month of September are given by Tom & Alecia Harrison in honor of their children's baptisms.



Flowers this week are given by Tom & Alecia Harrison in celebration of Ben's Birthday.



Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday. Sign-up sheets are on the board in the hallway.

Next Saturday, **September 11th** is not only Patriot's Day, but also our Church-Wide Clean Up Day. Hopefully many of you will be able to help. We will gather from 10 am until 1 pm.





*Next Sunday, September 12th,
is Rally Day!
Please plan to join us for worship
followed by a
Pot Luck Luncheon.*



It's that time of year again!

The time where your past treasures become someone else's exciting new find.
It's **Yard Sale time!!** Our annual yard sale will take place on **September 25th** from 7 am to Noon. So, start gathering all those treasures that you want to part with!

WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!

