

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church



The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
May 5, 2024

Alleluia!! Christ is risen!!! Welcome to worship this morning! Prince of Peace is a congregation of people who are called to Live, Learn and Grow in the Word of God. We strive to be faithful disciples in the world through our care for each other, our hospitality to those who come here to share in the fellowship of Christ, and our service to those who are in need in our community and throughout the world.

If you are visiting with us today, WELCOME!! Please take a moment to sign the guest register on the Usher's stand in the narthex and introduce yourself to the pastor.

We are now in the Season of Easter. The Alleluias are back, the music is much more festive and the melancholy days of Lent have given way to the joy of Easter and the celebration of the Risen Christ. It is in this season where we hear about the resurrection stories of Jesus and we move from talk about resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit on the last Sunday of Easter, Pentecost.

*Pastor Bill Schaefer*

### **Some Practical Things:**

- **Restrooms** are located in the Sunday School section of the building. Walk out of the sanctuary and continue across the narthex, through the double doors and the restrooms will be on your right after you pass the two class rooms. There is a water station across from the restrooms for your convenience.
- **Children:** All children, even those who chat, cry, laugh or are having a rough morning, are always welcome here. If your child needs to move about, please feel free to walk around the back of the church or in the Narthex with your child during the service.
- **Holy Communion:** We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion every Sunday at Prince of Peace. All baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament are welcome at this, the Lord's Table, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. You will find more information in this worship folder. Our ushers will help guide you.
- **Prayer Requests:** If there is someone you wish us to pray for over the next few days or weeks, please take a moment to fill out one of the white prayer cards that is in the pew racks and either give it to the pastor or one of the ushers or place it in the offering plate.
- **If you are interested in membership** here at Prince of Peace, please take a moment to speak with the pastor before you leave for more information about the congregation and membership.

# GATHERING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRELUDE

*Please stand as you are able*

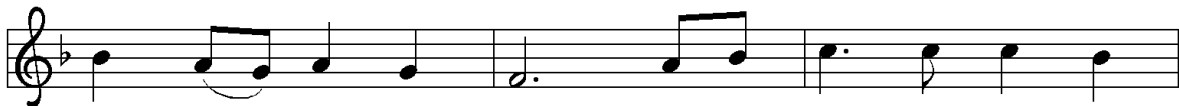
## GATHERING HYMN *All Are Welcome*



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus:  
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:  
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

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

**C** **And also with you.**

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 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.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 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 vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** *(boldly)* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** *(boldly)* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** The Lord be with you

**C** **And also with you**

**P** Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### FIRST READING Acts 10:44-48

*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**Lector** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM Psalm 98**

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

**SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-6**

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**Lector** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*



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



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL John 15:9-17**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

**P** The holy gospel according to St. John in the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

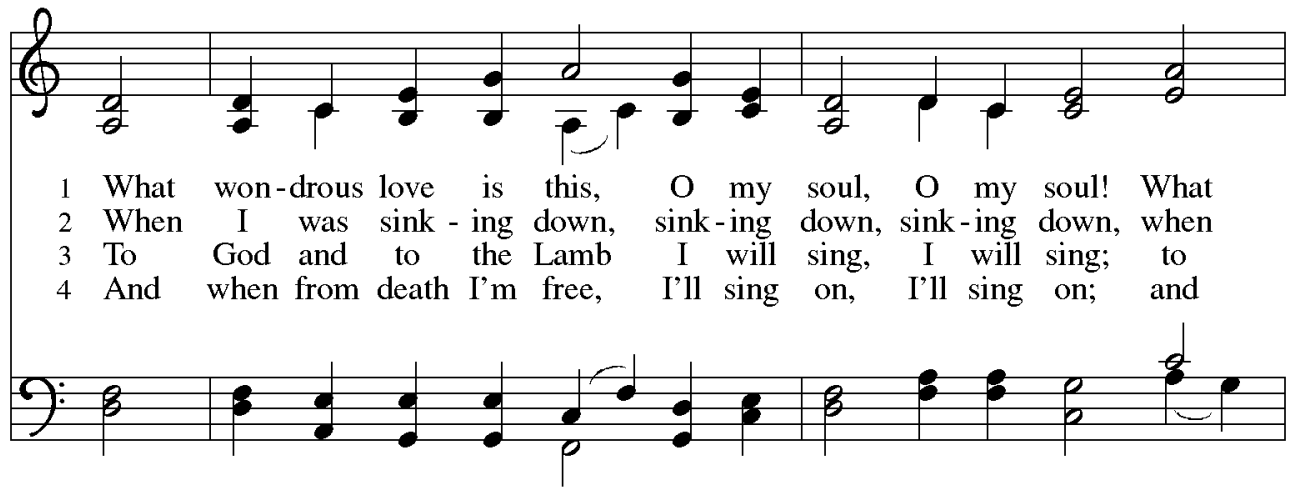
**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

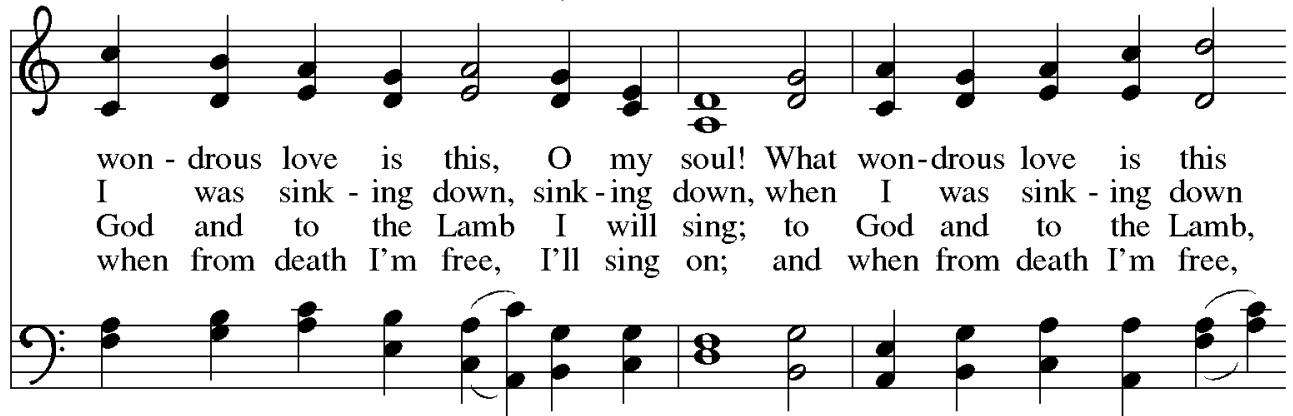
*Please be seated*

**SERMON** The Rev. William A. Schaefer

*Please stand as you are able*




1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.



## THE NICENE CREED

**P** Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed

**C** **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Please kneel or sit as you are able*

**P** Lord in your mercy.

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

*When the prayers have concluded*

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your love through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*Please stand as you are able and greet each other with the Peace of Christ as you are most comfortable and please respect how those around you choose to share the Peace.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The offering plate is located near the Sanctuary doors into the Gathering Space*

## MEAL

*Please stand as you are able*

### OFFERTORY

*Let the Vineyards*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



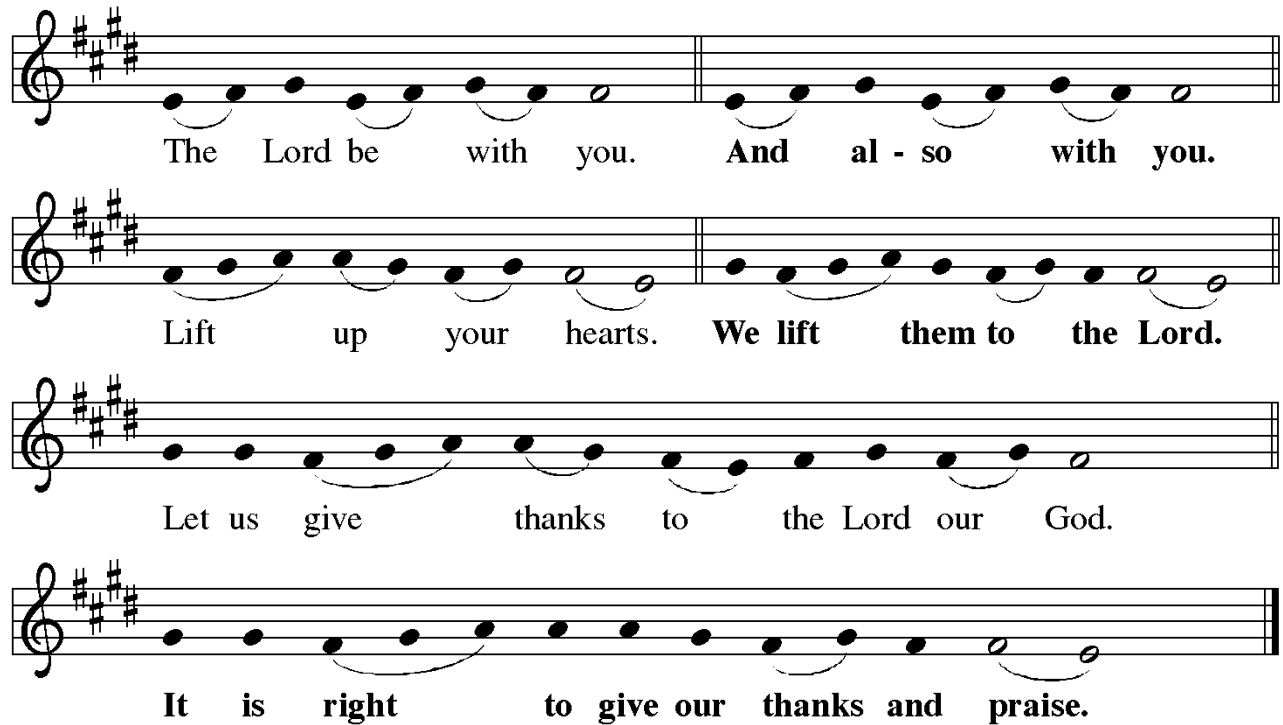
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**C** We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

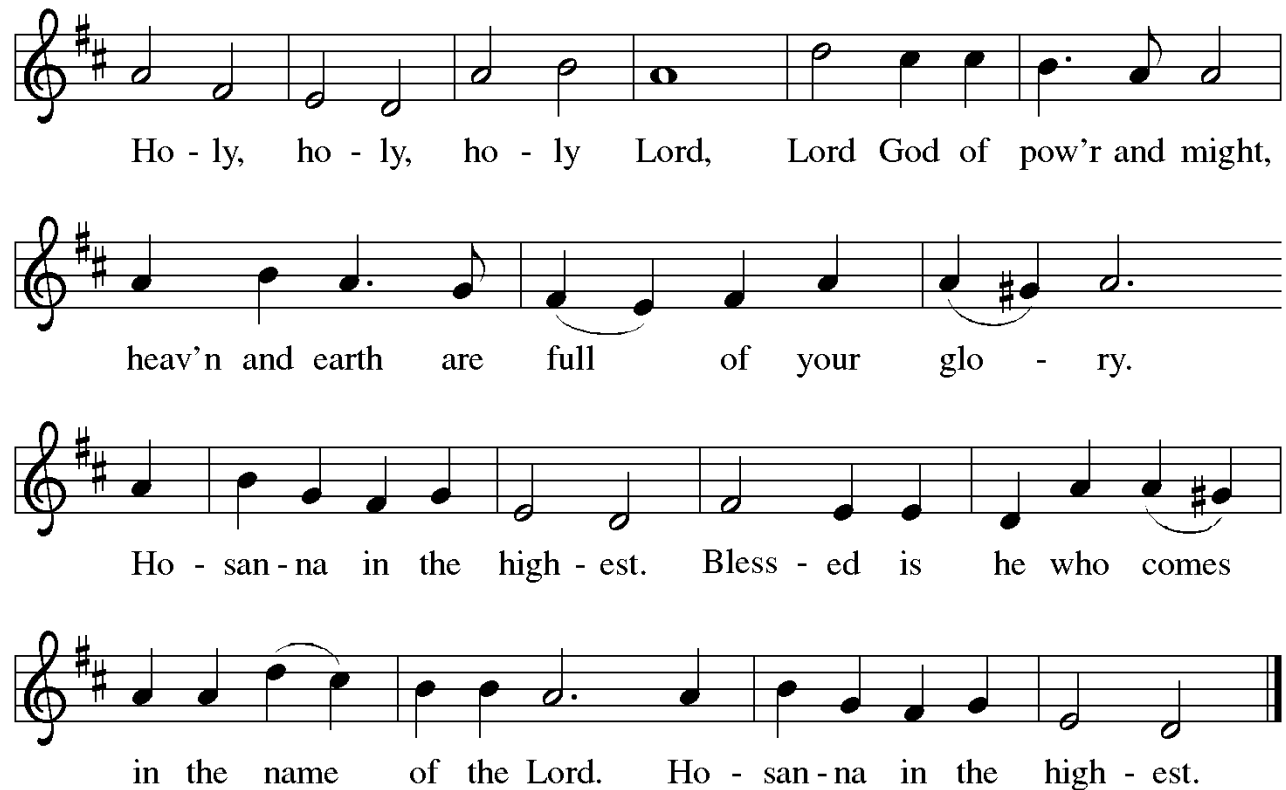
## DIALOGUE



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.

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P** You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C** **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

**P** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C** **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 These are the gifts of God for the people of God, come for the banquet is now ready.



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.

## COMMUNION

*Please be seated. As we gather around the table of our Lord, all Baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion this morning. Children visiting with us today, who receive the Sacrament in their home congregation, should follow the practices from that congregation. If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament this morning, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate this to the Pastor as you come forward. The Sacrament will be distributed in both bread and wine today. The Usher will invite you forward.*

*On the first Sunday of the Month and on Festival Sundays we will commune at altar rail. Please fill in the altar rail from the organ side around to the pulpit side and you may kneel or stand to receive the Sacrament today. You will receive the bread from the pastor and then the Lay Assistant will come to you with a tray of pre-filled wine glasses. Carefully take one and drink the wine. **Gluten-free wafers are available – ask the Pastor for them when you come forward. If you wish to receive grape juice today, please take a glass from the small tray as you come forward.** Proceed toward the side aisle and there will be a basket on the end of the pew for you to dispose of your used cup. Then return to your seat via the side aisles.*

*On other Sundays, you will come forward and take a glass of wine from the large trays on your left or **grape juice from the small tray.** Proceed to the pastor who will give you a wafer. Consume the Sacrament and place your used cup in the trays on the front pews. Return to your seat via the side aisles. After all have communed, please stand as you are able.*

**P** May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace to life everlasting.

**C** **Amen**

**P** Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

**P** May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**    *Let All Things Now Living*    (Printed on the Next Page)

### DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

# Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



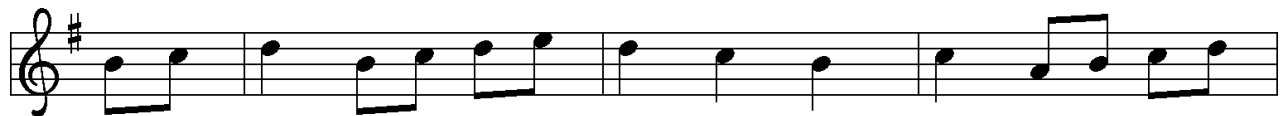
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"