



Matthew 22:21

**Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's,
and to God the things that are God's.**

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost October 18, 2026

Faith Lutheran Church
311 Judges Rd. 2B
Wilmington, NC 28405
www.flcwnc.org

Welcome to our Visitors!

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are glad you are here. It is our sincere prayer that God would refresh you by His Holy Word and Sacrament and that you would take with you His peace and joy. If you would care to give us your contact information, we would like to get to know you better and keep in touch. If you have questions or are interested in membership, please speak to anyone here.

Holy Communion

We come to the table at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

Mission Statement

“...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

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Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Oct. 18, 2026

Chicago Folk Service

*indicates to please stand

Bold-congregation responses

PRELUDE SLANE

Setting by Matthew Corl

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

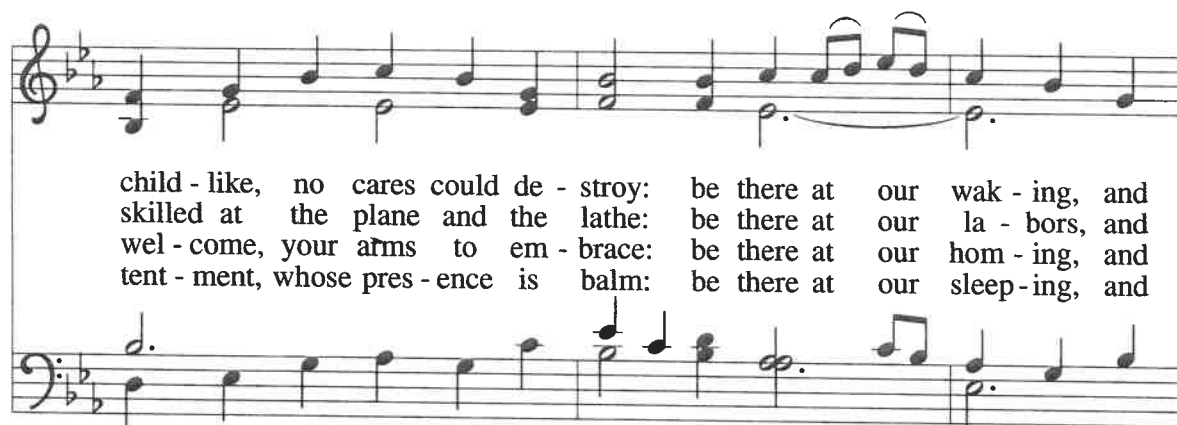
God our Father does care about us. In His mercy, He has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit. May Almighty God strengthen and preserve you unto life everlasting.

Amen.

***ENTRANCE HYMN Lord of All Hopefulness**



1 Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ev - er
 2 Lord of all ea - ger-ness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to
 4 Lord of all gen - tle-ness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is con -



child - like, no cares could de - stroy: be there at our wak - ing, and
 skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our la - bors, and
 wel - come, your arms to em - brace: be there at our hom - ing, and
 tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm: be there at our sleep - ing, and



give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953
 Music: Irish traditional; arr. Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
 Text © Oxford University Press
 Arr. © 1964 Abingdon Press, admin. The Copyright Company

SLANE
 10 11 11 12

***WELCOME**

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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

***KYRIE – “DEACONS PRAYER”**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace that is from above and for our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the people of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy place and for those who in faith, devotion, and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help save, strengthen and defend us, O God by your grace.



*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS – “SONG OF PRAISE”

Glo-ry be to God on high, praise to you most

Ho - ly! O Lord God, Heav'n - ly King

God the Fa - ther Al - might - y! O Lord God,

Lamb of God, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther:

Christ who takes a - way our sin, have mer - cy up-

on us. For you on - ly Lord, O Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it, are most high

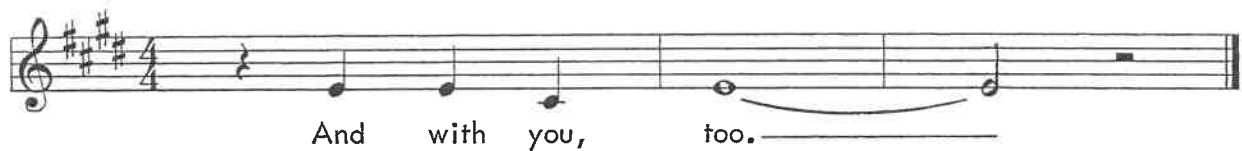
in the glo - ry of — God the Fa - ther.

Glo - ry be to God on high! A - men.

The musical score is written on ten staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 2/2. The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff features a time signature change to 4/4. The sixth staff continues the melody. The seventh staff continues the melody. The eighth staff continues the melody. The ninth staff continues the melody. The tenth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

***“GREETING” AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.



Let us pray...

Sovereign Lord, your reign extends across time and space. You have created us in your own image and redeemed us by your grace through your Son. Grant that we may return to you what is yours, our entire selves given to your mission in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

The First Reading is from Isaiah, the 45th chapter.

¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ²"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96



- ¹Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- ²Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- ³Declare his glory among the nations*
and his wonders among all peoples. **Refrain:**
- ⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- ⁶Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary! **Refrain:**
- ⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- ⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name;
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- ⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him. **Refrain:**

SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from Thessalonians the 1st chapter.

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Al-le-lu-le, Alleluia" (vs 4 & 5)

Refrain

Sing praise to the Lord, — all the earth!

Al - le - lu - le, Al - le - lu - ia! *fine*

Play mu - sic to praise his name!

Al - le - lu - le, Al - le - lu - ia! (VERSE)

4. To Christ our heavenly king
Give thanks for everything.

5. He came to show us how
To live in the here and now.

*** GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

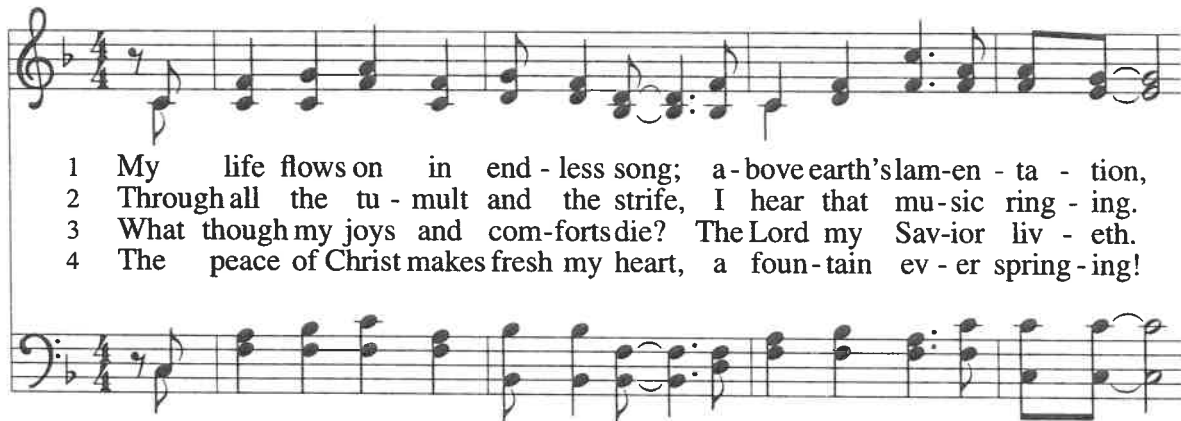
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

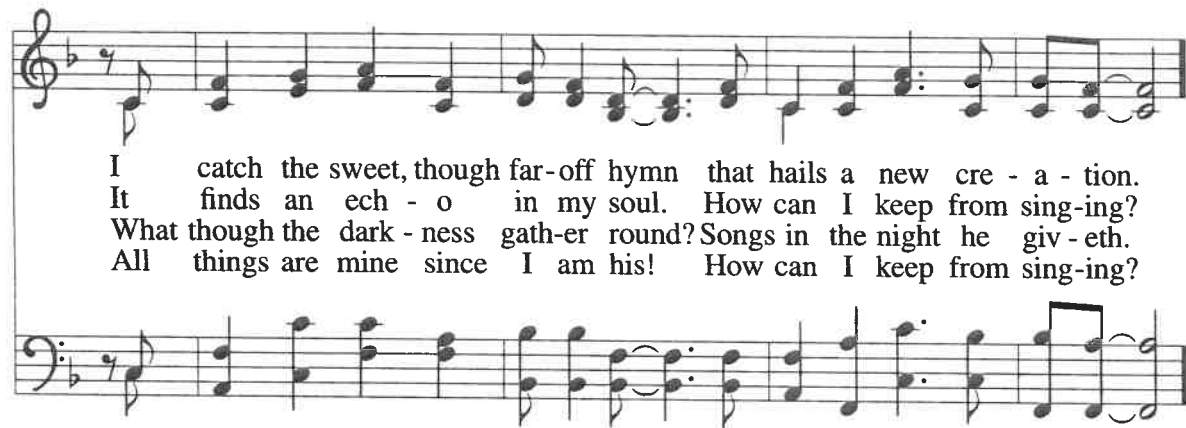
SERMON Pr. Paul “Who’s Image Do You Bear?”



HYMN OF THE DAY My Life Flows On in Endless Song

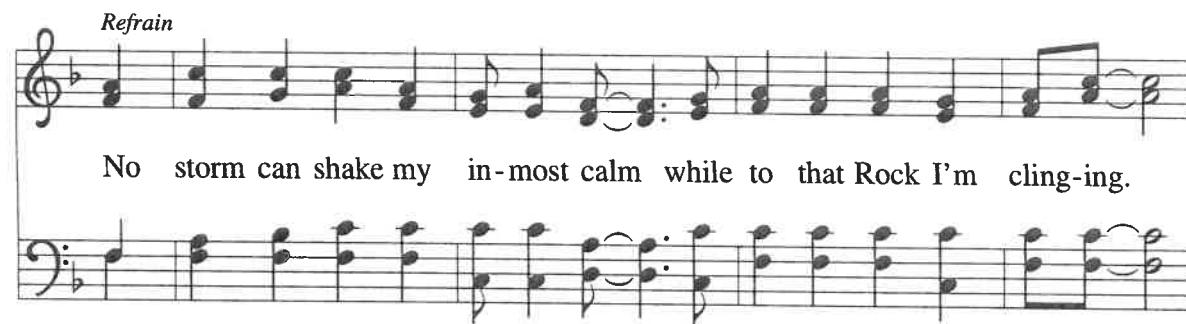


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion,
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
 3 What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing!

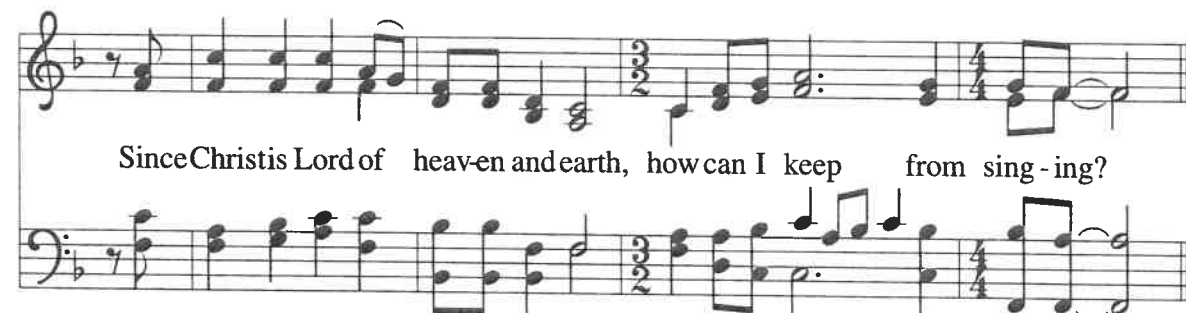


I catch the sweet, though far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?

Refrain

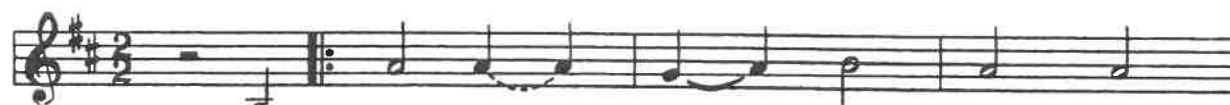


No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav - en and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?

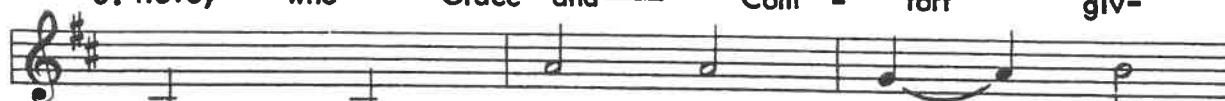
*APOSTLES CREED – “CREED”



1. We all be - lieve— in one true
 2. (And) we be - lieve— in Je - sus
 3. (And) we in the Ho - ly Ghost be -



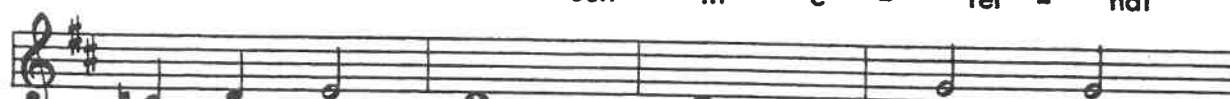
1. God — Mak - er of Earth— and Heav-
 2. Christ, his Son our— Lord— and Sav-
 3. lieve, who Grace and— Com - fort giv-



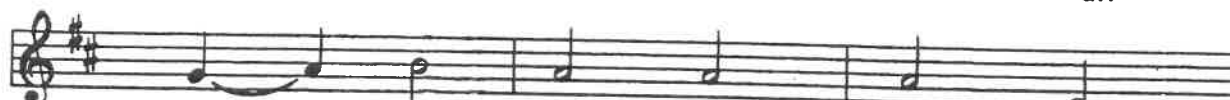
1. en, the Fa - ther who— to
 2. ior, the who with the Fa - ther
 3. eth, and with the Fa - ther



1. us in love, hath the name of
 2. e - qual might, — hath pow'r of and
 3. and the Son in e - ter - nal



1. chil - dren giv - en, He in
 2. glo - ry for - ev - er. Born of
 3. glo - ry liv - eth. Who all



1. soul — and bod - y feeds us.
 2. Mar - y Vir - gin Moth er
 3. Chris - tian broth - ers e - ven



1. All we need — his hand pro-
 2. by the work - ing of the
 3. keeps in u - ni - ty of

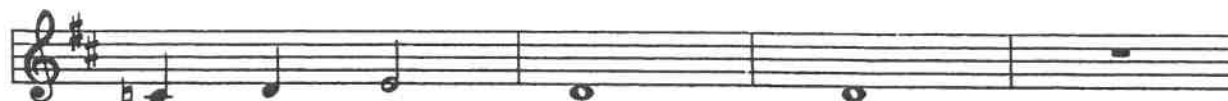
***APOSTLE'S CREED (continued)**



1. vides us, through all snares and
 2. Spir - it, he be - came our
 3. Spir - it, sins are tru - ly for-



1. per - ils leads us sees no
 2. el - der broth - er, that Heav'n we
 3. giv - en through the Blest Re-



1. harm - be - tides us.
 2. might - in - her - it.
 3. deem - er's mer - it.



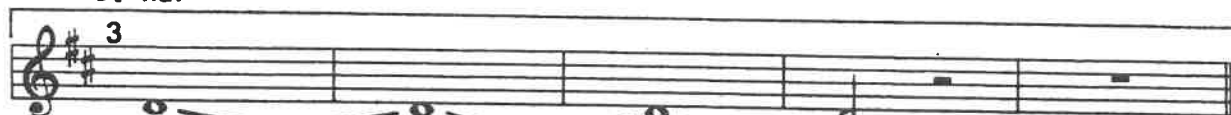
1. He cares for us by day and
 2. Was cru - ci - fied by sin - ful
 3. All flesh shall rise a - gain and



1. night, all things are gov - erned by
 2. men, and raised by God to life
 3. we shall live with God e - ter



1. His - might. And
 2. a - gain. And
 3. nal



3. ly.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer.

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

And also with you.

(Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

OFFERTORY "Jesus, Name Above All Names" ** *Flute & Piano Duet* *Music by Naida Hearn; Arr. by John F. Wilson*

*"CREATE IN ME"

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O,

God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.—

— Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.— Re-

³store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-

hold me with your spir - it free.— Cre-

ate in me a clean heart, O— God, and re-

new a right spir - it with - in me.—

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in a box. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes or staves.



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*Let us pray,

Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us; ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*“THANKSGIVING”

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Give thanks to the Lord.



It is truly right and proper at all times and places to give our thanks to you, Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, ever living God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heav'n, we laud and magnify your glorious name evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of
Hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most high.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. —
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho-
san - nah in the high - est! —

Father, you are holy indeed; all your actions show your mercy and love. You made us in your image and set us over your creation. Even when we had fallen under the spell of sin, you did not abandon us but offered a covenant of blessing for all people.

You rescued your chosen people, Israel, as a sign of the great deliverance to come. You sent prophets to prepare the way. And when the time had come, you sent your Son; born of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. In word and wonder he proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. For us he was lifted up on the cross that we might know the power of his resurrection. And that we might no longer live for ourselves, but for him, he promised his Holy Spirit to those who believe to comfort and guide us and make us children of you, his Father.

Father, through him and in his name, we ask you fill us with your Holy Spirit so that, until he comes again, we may remember him as he commanded us:

*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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*LORD'S PRAYER



1. Our Fa - ther who art in Heav -
2. (On) Earth as it is in Heav -
3. And for - give us our tres -
4. Lead us — not in - to temp -
5. (For) thine is the king - dom and the
6. (A-) men, A - men, it shall be



1. en, —
 2. en, —
 3. pass - es,
 4. ta - tion,
 5. pow - er,
 6. so, —
- 1-6. Hal - low - ed be Thy Name.



1. Thy — King - dom come, — Thy will be —
2. Give us this day our dai - ly
3. As we for - give those who tres - pass a -
4. But de - liv - er us from
5. And the glo - ry for - ev - er and
6. A - men, A - men, it shall be —

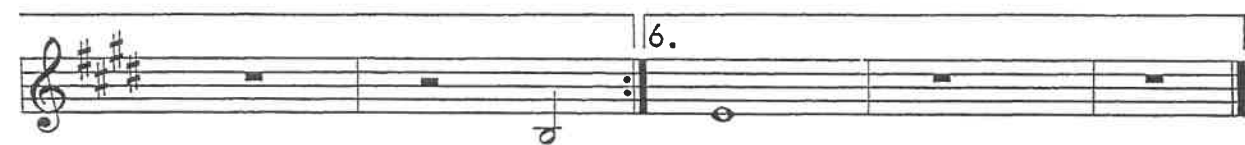
*LORD'S PRAYER (Continued)

1-5



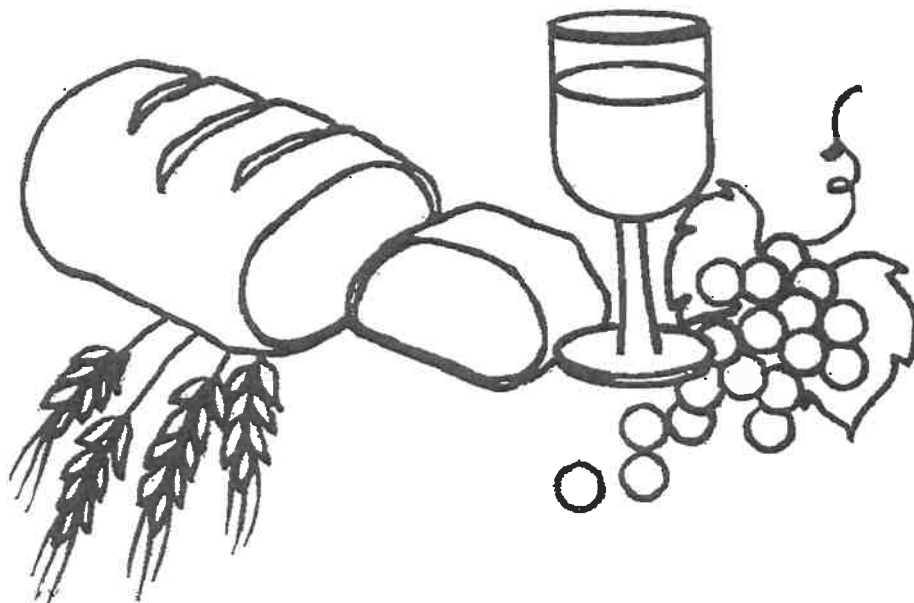
1. done, —
 2. bread, —
 3. gainst us,
 4. e - vil,
 5. ev - er,
 6. so. —

1-6. Hal - low - ed be Thy Name.



2. On
 3.
 4. 6. Name.
 5. For
 6. A-

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.
 When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.



***AGNUS DEI – “LAMB OF GOD”**

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
sin of the world,— have mer - cy on us.
Christ, O Lamb of God,
who takes a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on
us.
Christ, O Lamb of
God, who takes a - way the sin of the world,—
give us your peace.

COMMUNION

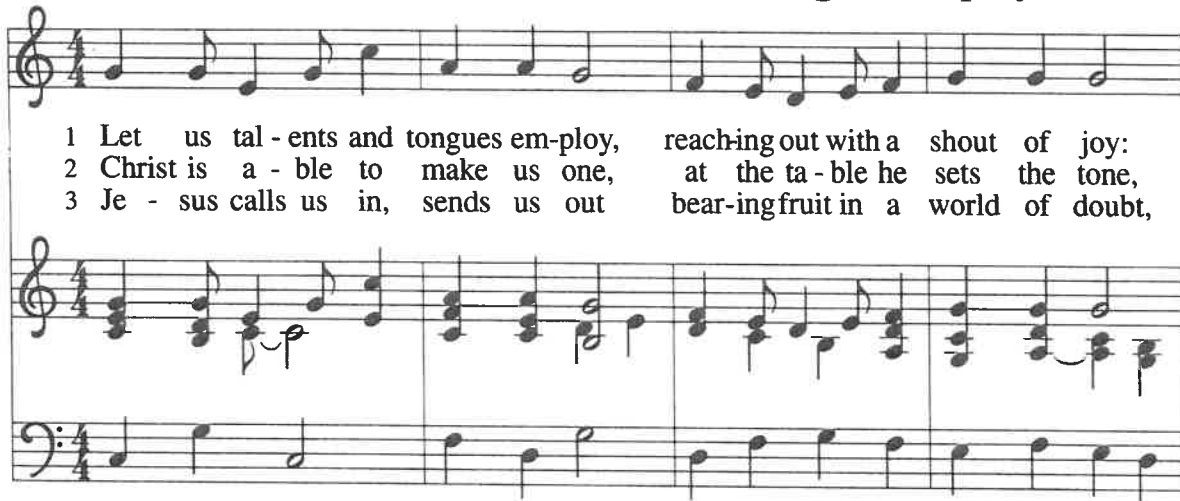
The body of Christ given for you.

Amen.

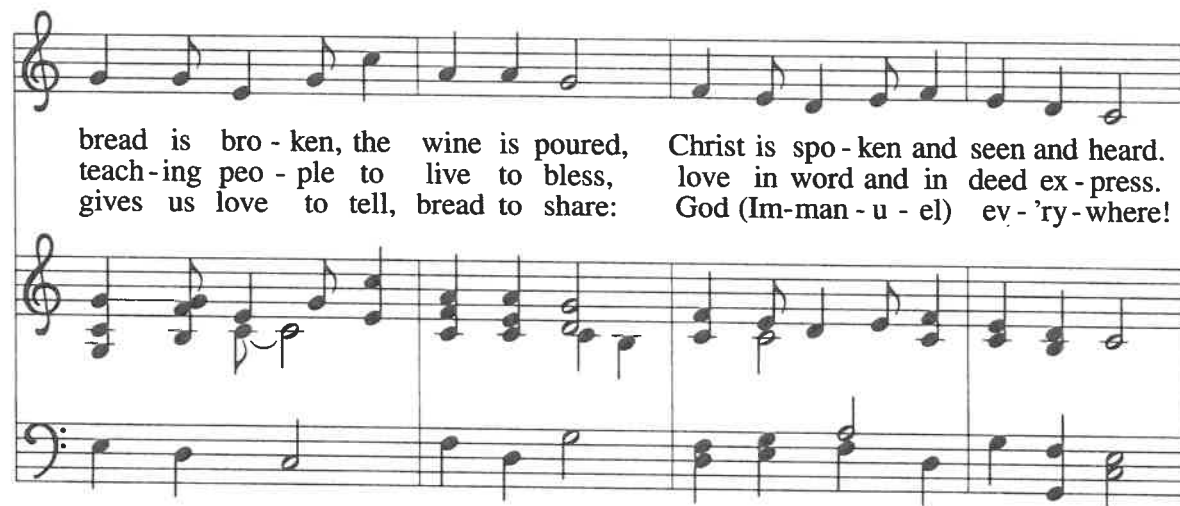
The blood of Christ shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

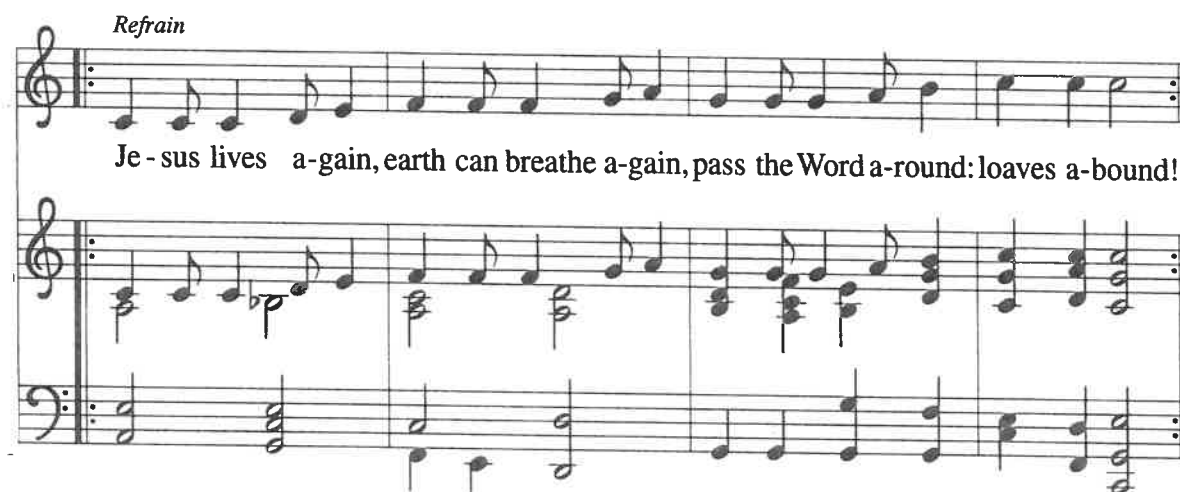


1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reaching out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980

Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD
LM and refrain

*The Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep us in His Grace.

Amen

*NUNC DIMITTIS – “SIMEON’S SONG”

Lord, now send your ser - vants forth in

peace ac - cord - ing to your word. —

Here we have seen your sav - ing

work done in the sight of all man -

kind; to those in dark - ness a

prom - ise bright, — to be - liev - ers a liv - ing

hope. — Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, —

and to the Son, —

and to the Ho - ly Ghost; — as it was in

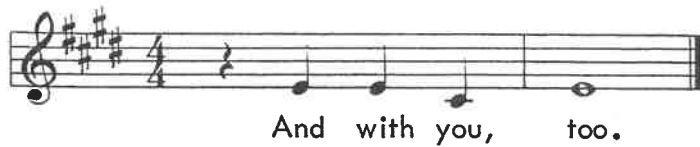
the be - gin - ing, — is now and ev - er

shall be, — world with - out end.

A - men.

***“BLESSING”**

The Lord be with you.



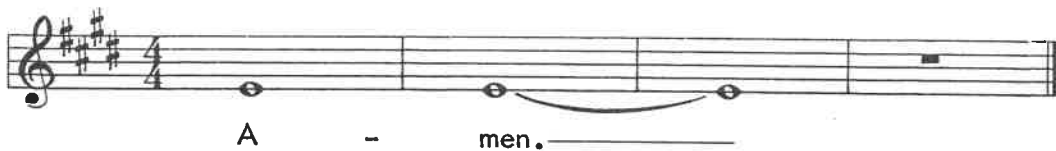
Bless we the Lord.



The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

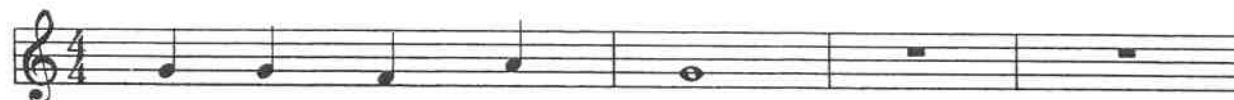
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



Blessings

***"SEND US FORTH IN PEACE"**

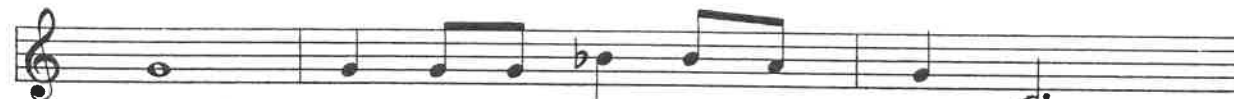
Lord we have your peace.



Lord, we have your peace.



Lord, we have your peace. Lord, we have your



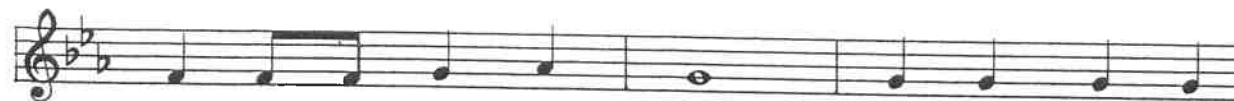
peace. Just as you said we have heard it,



Just as you lived we have felt it. Lord we have your



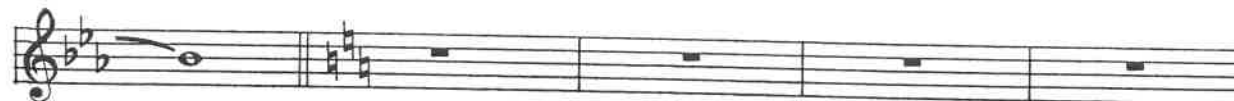
peace. Sus - tain us in your peace, O Lord, as we



go to our sep - rate worlds. Keep this peace with



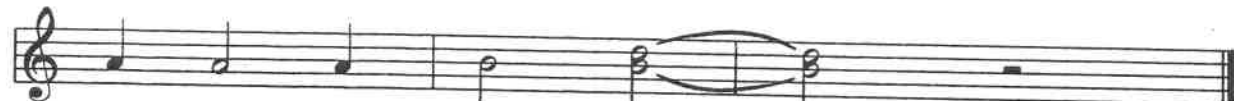
us as we try to love in our trou - bled worlds.—



Send us forth in peace.



Send us forth in peace to be a light to show your



beau - ty for - ev - er.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Chicago Folk Service by Art Gorman, Neil A. Kjos Music Co. Publisher Park Ridge, IL 60068

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Serving the Family of Faith

This Week: 10/18

Reader: Ken Schiess

Communion: Nancy Wells

Fellowship: Deb Ebert

Usher: Gary Ebeltoft

Next Week: 10/25

Reader: Ralph Kuhn

Communion: Gina Schiess

Fellowship: Gina Schiess

Usher: Frank Gray

Reminders: 10/22 Thursday at 10 a.m. Women's Bible study on the Parables.
10/25 Reformation Sunday A tradition is to wear red:)

Given to the glory of God: \$2,020.00

** Music taken from "The Essential Collection" which was purchased at the American Lutheran Musicians Conference at St. Olaf College this summer.