

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

#### **PRELUDE**

**Bishop Penman:** \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

The assembly stands. The service continues with the gathering song.

## Word of God, Come Down on Earth



Text: James Quinn, sJ, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

Text © James Quinn, st, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American Agent.

## Bishop Penman: \*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.** 

#### Assisting Minister:

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Hold a brief silence.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Isaiah 65:1-9

A Reading from Isaiah:

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs and spend the night in secret places; who eat the flesh of pigs, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, "Keep to yourself; do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 22:19-28

The assembly sings the psalm in unison.

Tone



- 19 But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
  - O my help, hasten to my aid.
  - 20 Deliver me | from the sword, my life from the power | of the dog.
  - 21 Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have I rescued me.

- 22 I will declare your name 1 to my people;
  - in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.
  - <sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
    - Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
  - <sup>24</sup> For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them; but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.
  - <sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
    I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
  - The poor shall eat | and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!
  - <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn 1 to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow 1 before God.
  - <sup>28</sup> For dominion belongs 1 to the LORD, who rules o- 1 ver the nations.

#### SECOND READING

**Galatians 3:23-29** 

A Reading from Galatians:

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION All sing the alleluias.



Bishop Penman: \*GOSPEL

Luke 8:26-39

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus and his disciples arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As Jesus stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me," for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. The demons begged Jesus not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So Jesus gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and

the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with Jesus, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So the man went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

After the reading:

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

## **SERMON**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

# Cast Out, O Christ



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

## **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.

## \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

## A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Clothe us in Christ, shower us in mercy, send us in love. Strengthen the faith and witness of Christians across the planet (international companion churches and synods may be named) and Christians in our community (local congregations may be named).

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

We pray for creation. Deliver the earth from disaster, bring forth life amid uncertainty, inspire wonder at all you have made. Sustain all people who delight in the well-being of your creation: farmers, agricultural workers, gardeners, birdwatchers, conservationists, scientists, advocates, and policy makers.

Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. Pave a way to justice, drown the forces of oppression, bring peace on earth. Give leaders the will to turn from war and violence (areas in crises may be named). When people must flee their homes, guide them to safety. Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

We pray for people in need. Satisfy all who are poor, soothe those in pain, accompany all who are sick (especially).

Give perseverance to each of us living with mental illness, and shield us from discrimination due to race, class, gender, or any other human distinction. Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. Listen to our cries, come to our aid, make us one. Weave among us the fabric of belonging so that we rejoice in each person gathered here, and enliven our proclamation of how much you have done for us. Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Keep them in your peace, comfort us in sorrow, raise us to new life. As we remember their faith and witness, may we trust your promise that we are yours forever.

Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Bishop Penman: \*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of peace. Please be mindful of touch.

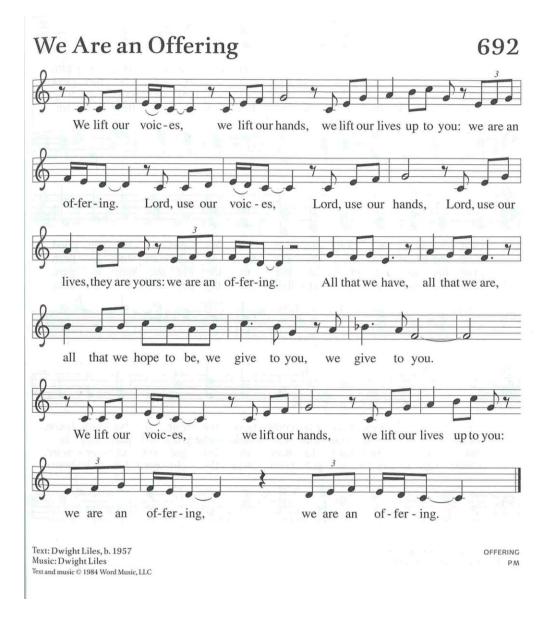
#### MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **OFFERING**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church. Our offering at Christ Ascension goes to support our ministries as well as those of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. If you want to give electronically, you may do so using the DONATE tab on our website: christascension.org, or by scanning the QR Code. For those physically present in worship, an offering plate is near the entrance on the information table.

\*OFFERTORY ELW #692



Assisting Minister: \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

# Let us pray.

A brief silence is held.

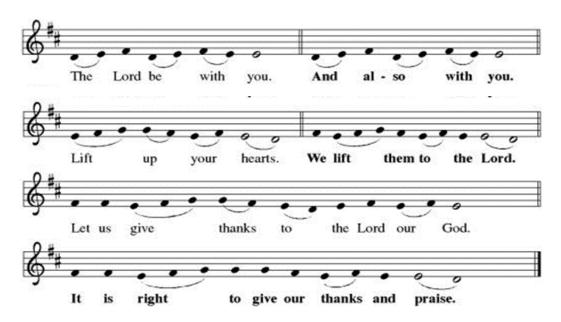
Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Bishop Penman:** \*DIALOGUE



## **Bishop Penman:** \*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



**Bishop Penman:** \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.
Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light.
Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

# The earth is full of your glory. The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth. 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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ.

Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.

Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen.

Amen, and amen.

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

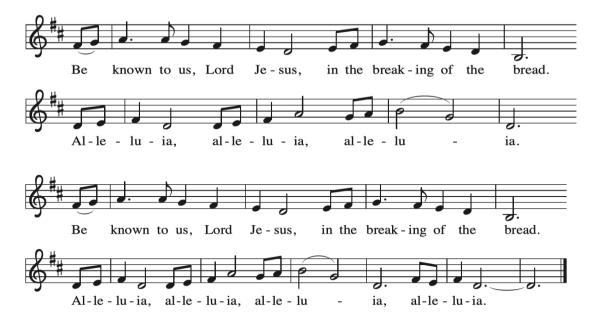
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial And deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, And the glory are yours,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

## \*COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and Christ himself is present when we share this Meal. All Christians are welcome to receive the bread and wine, Christ's body and blood, given and shed for the sake of the world. Wine, with a grape juice alternative, is offered by pouring chalice. Take a small cup from the tray. Receive the bread in your open palm. Hold your cup steadily for the assisting minister to pour into. You may stand there to drink. When you return to your seat, please dispose of the cup in the bowl provided. For those who desire it, gluten-free bread is available; indicate your desire to the presiding minister. For those who would like to participate, but not to receive bread or wine, please come forward for a blessing. Indicate this desire by crossing your arms in front of you. If you are unable to come forward and would like Communion brought to you in your seat, let the usher know.

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

# Taste and see that the Lord is good.



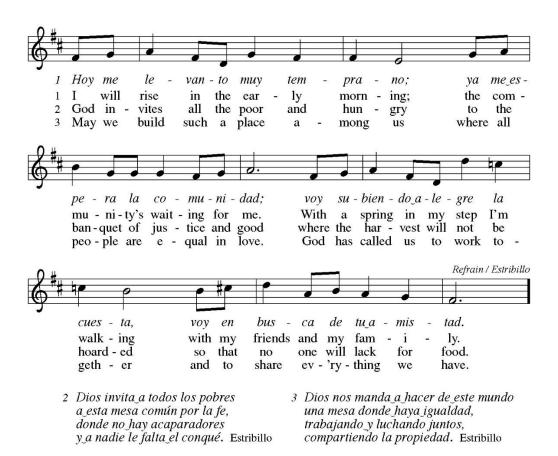
## **SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION**

ELW #523

# Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

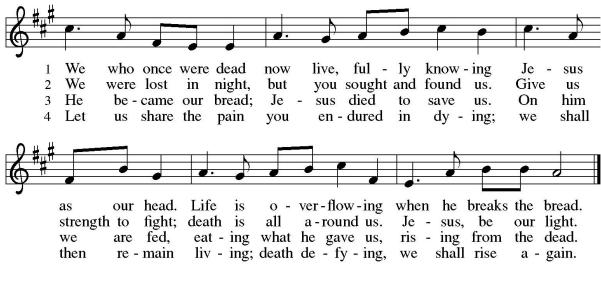
Vamos todos al banquete





Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## We Who Once Were Dead



5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead. 6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite
Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936
Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV., Baarn, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. Exclusive agent for English-language countries: OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

**Bishop Penman: TABLE BLESSING** 

**Assisting Minister: POST COMMUNION PRAYER** 

Let us pray.

Hold a brief silence.

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

## **SENDING**

**Pastor Janet:** ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bishop Penman: BLESSING** 

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

**SENDING HYMN** ELW #845

## Voices Raised to You



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007 Music: SONG OF PRAISE, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 1996 Carolyn Jennings

## **DISMISSAL**

# Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Preaching today is Bishop Bryan Penman.
- Pastor Janet Peterman is back at work on a limited schedule. While she cannot drive, she is often available for text or conversation. Leave a message about when you are available
- Today's hospitality is in celebration of Donna Skinner Echols' retirement.

## LEADING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

PREACHING MINISTER **BISHOP BRYAN PENMAN** Presiding Minister PASTOR JANET PETERMAN **ASSISTING MINISTER** Merri Brown MUSICIAN CHRIS HOLBEN **LECTOR DONNA ECHOLS USHER GORDON GERHART** ALTAR GUILD BERYL EVANS HOSPITALITY SARA CALDERON, THE BECKS, & PASTOR JANET

### **COPYRIGHT INFORMATION**

**Liturgical Texts:** All liturgical texts used from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and/ or All Creation Sings administered Augsburg Fortress and under Sundays and Seasons License #**SAS000839**.

**Liturgical Setting:** Liturgical Setting: Holy Communion Setting 12©2020: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960, Kyrie, "My soul proclaims your greatness," Gospel Acclamation, Lenten Acclamation, "Holy, holy, holy," "Lamb of God," "Be known to us, Lord Jesus"; Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953, J. Bert Carlson, 1937-2017, "Glory to you, God." All service music settings © pr administered by Augsburg Fortress.

**Biblical Texts:** Scripture quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

#### Hymns: Hymns used through One License #A-725060.

ELW #510 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

Text: James Quinn, SJ, B. 1919 Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

Text © James Quinn, SJ, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

ACS #1016 Cast Out, O Christ

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816;

arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

ELW #692 We Are an Offering

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957

Music: Dwight Liles

Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

ELW #523 Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Text:Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956

Music: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955

Text and music © 1988, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc.

ELW #495 We Who Once Were Dead

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909-1972; tr. composite

Music: Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936

Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn,

The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications

ELW #845 Voices Raised to You

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

Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 1996 Carolyn Jennings