



GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

**Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.**

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

**Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.**

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

**We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

**Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into
freedom.**

**At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the
Holy Spirit.**

**By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

**To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.**

Amen.

The service continues with gathering song. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing. The assembly stands.

***GATHERING SONG**

ELW #597

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.


Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

***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.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *This is the feast*


Refrain




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.




1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Hold a brief silence.

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

HABAKKUK 1:1-4; 2:1-4

A Reading from Habakkuk:

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what the Lord will say to me and what the Lord will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

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

Psalm 37:1-9

Tone



Refrain



Com - mit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD.

- ¹ Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.
- ² **For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.
- ⁴ **Take delight | in the LORD,
who shall give you your | heart's desire. R**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,
and see what | God will do.
- ⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.
- ⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**
- ⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

A Reading from Timothy:

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God, the Father, and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God— whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did— when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to God's own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through

the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that God is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to God. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *The alleluias are introduced by the choir, and then repeated by ALL. The choir sings the proper verse, and then ALL sing alleluias again.*



Proper Verse:

"The word of the Lord en-^ldures forever.* That word is the good news that was an-^lnounced to you. " (1 Pet. 1:25)

***GOSPEL**

Luke 17:5-10

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to any enslaved person who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your**

apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank any enslaved person for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

After the reading:

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

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW #733

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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***NICENE CREED**

**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**

**Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for
the church, the world, and all creation.**

A brief silence.

O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence (*especially*).

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need (*especially*).

Help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered. For What Else Shall we Pray?

O God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*).

May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms, like Lois and Eunice, shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all.

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 #182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

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 the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music concludes with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

A brief silence is held.

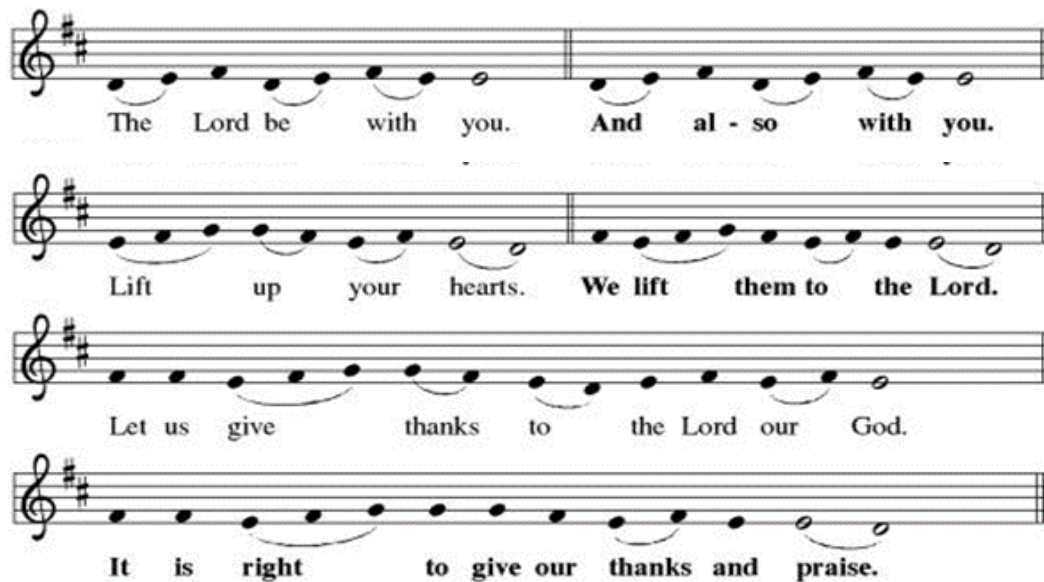
**Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with
these gifts: our selves, our time, and our**

possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***DIALOGUE**

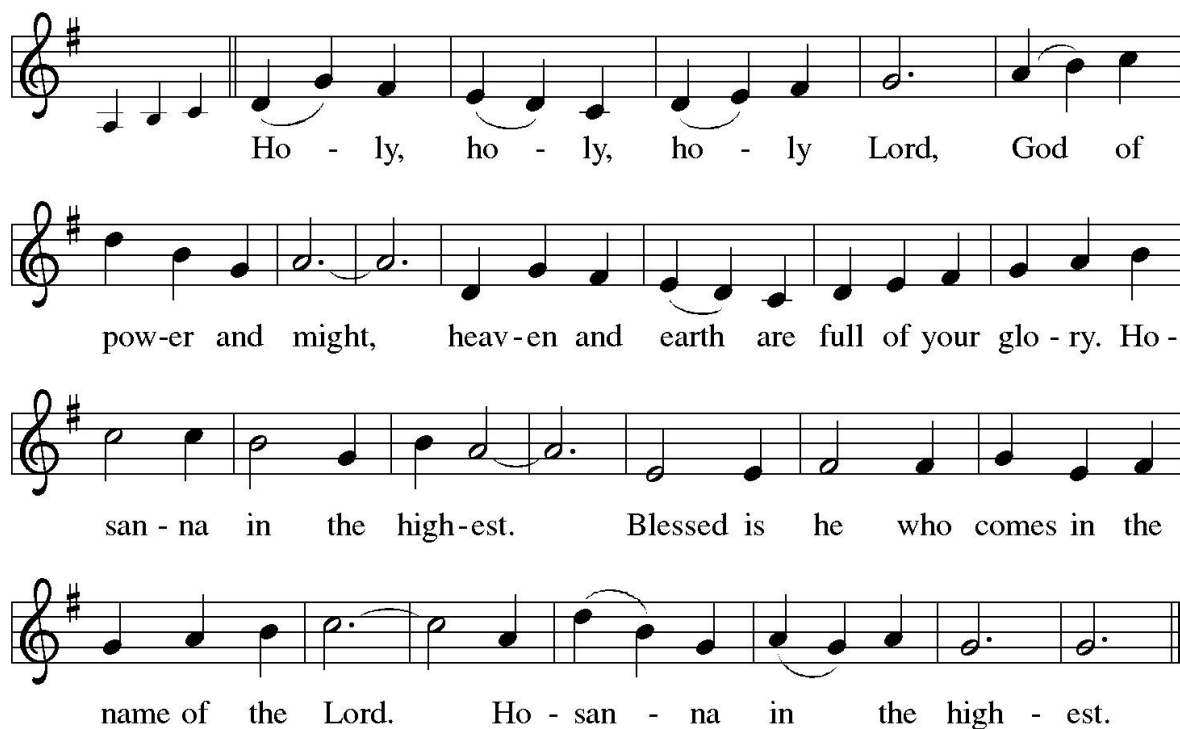


***PREFACE**

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



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 in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

O God most mighty,
O God most merciful,
O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise,
call us to your table,
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child;
When the Israelites were enslaved,

you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,
and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **[Amen.]**
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **[Amen.]**
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead
Amen. **[Amen.]**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.
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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION

ELW #759

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community
 Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Hold a brief silence.

**O God,
 through this meal you have strengthened us
 and appointed us to be your servants.
 Send us to do good and to share our possessions
 with all in need.
 We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

**Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless
you now and forever.**

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

ELW #769

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the renewal of Christ!

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: Sunday, October 5th, after worship--

The Transition Leadership Team (TLT) will lead a congregation-wide discussion on engaging our communities, now that the Preschool is no longer a primary mission focus of the congregation.

We'll gather with food, for good conversation! Do you remember some of those conversations the Transition team has led us in before?

With the closing of the preschool, we had to adapt the new pastor's job description, which led to interesting conversations in TLT and Council. This workshop brings that conversation to the congregation:

- * What does it mean that we finally got a license but no longer have a preschool?

What are our options?

- * Christ Ascension (and those who came before the merger) have always been mission-minded people. What needs in our communities are we best aligned to rise up to meet now? What is needed?

Join us for engaging conversation, together.

From your Transition Team

Next Sunday, October 12—Rummage Sale during the CH Fall for the Arts Festival, 11am-5pm. Donated items may be placed in the garage; please label your items "for rummage sale". Volunteers are needed to help remove and organize donated items from the barn, set up, work the sale table(s), and assist with clean up.

LEADING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

PREACHING & PRESIDING

PASTOR JANET PETERMAN

ASSISTING MINISTER

THOMAS BECK

MUSICIAN

KATHERINE REIER

LECTOR

DON BARB

USHER

CAMERON BROWN

ALTAR GUILD

ELIZABETH BECK

HOSPITALITY

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

ELW #597 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*
Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

ELW #733 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960
Music: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957
Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

ELW #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

- ELW #759** *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*
Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887
Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872
- ELW #528** *Come and Fill Our Hearts*
Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community
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