GATHERING

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

PRELUDE JS Bach Orchestral Suite No. 3-2nd Movement

Goldberg Variations Aira, BWV 1068

***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.

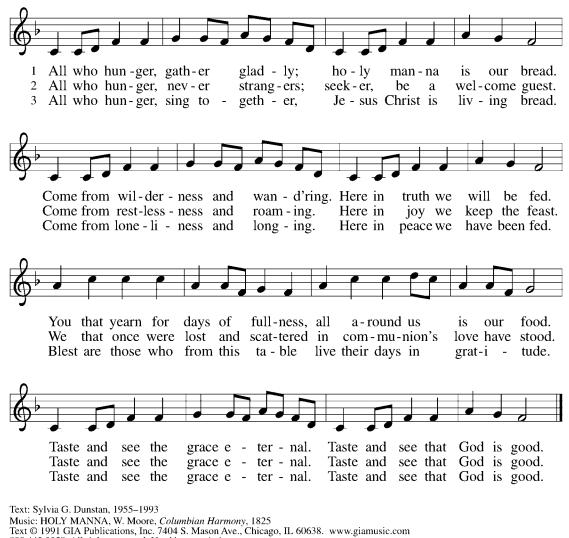
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



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*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.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

II Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So Elisha repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord: They shall eat and have some left. " He set it before them; they ate and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 145:10-18

The assembly sings the psalm in unison.

Tone



 $^{\mbox{\tiny 10}}$ All your works shall praise $^{\mbox{\tiny 1}}$ you, O LORD,

and your faithful $^{\scriptscriptstyle |}$ ones shall bless you.

- $^{\scriptscriptstyle 11}\mbox{They shall tell of the glory}$ $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}\mbox{ of your kingdom}$
- and speak I of your power,

¹² that all people may know ¹ of your power

and the glorious splendor I of your kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- - out all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in $\$ all your works.

 $^{\rm 14}$ The Lord upholds all $^{\rm I}$ those who fall

and lifts up those who I are bowed down.

- ¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon ¹ you, O LORD,
- and you give them their food $\ensuremath{\,^{|}}$ in due season.
- ¹⁶You open [|] wide your hand
- and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷You are righteous in ¹ all your ways and loving in ¹ all your works.
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who ' call upon you, to all who call up- ' on you faithfully.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God's Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to the one who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION All sing the alleluias.



*GOSPEL

John 6:1-21

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

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he

was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jewish people, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" Jesus said this to test Philip, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a child here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that Jesus had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him

king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But Jesus said to them, "Here I am; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

After the reading:

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

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

#515

Break Now the Bread of Life



Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space, and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season. Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict (*nations and places may be named*). Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering (especially),

families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near.

Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew. Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all, your love in Christ surpasses all knowledge. We give thanks for the departed who have come to know the fullness of your grace. Join our voices with theirs (*and with musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel*) and all the saints in singing your praises.

Merciful God,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*PEACE

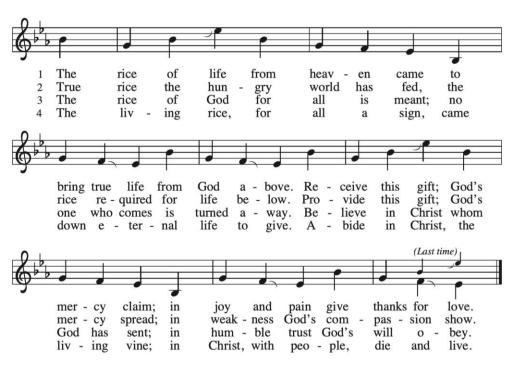
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** *We greet one another with a sign of peace. Please be mindful of touch.*

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.



The Rice of Life

Text: J. Andrew Fowler, b. 1935 Music: BÍ-NÎU, I-to Loh, b. 1936 Text and music © 1990 Christian Conference of Asia, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

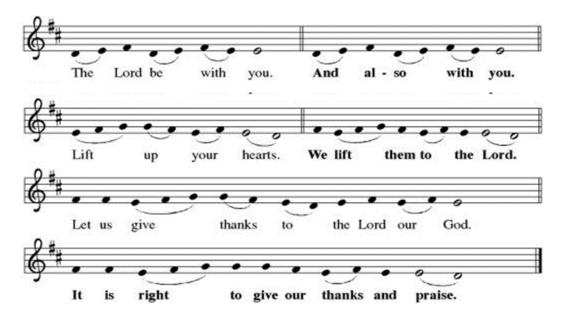
Let us pray.

A brief silence is held.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE

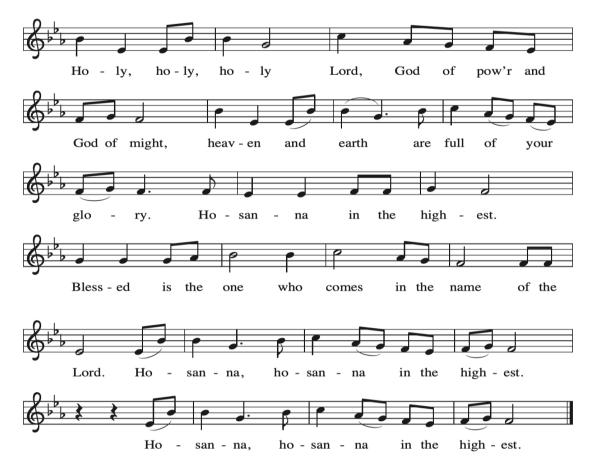


*PREFACE

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



***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.

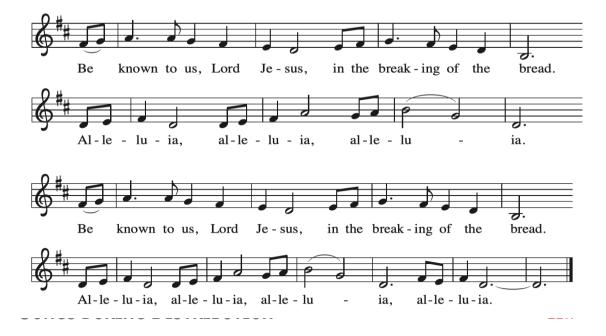
*COMMUNION

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.

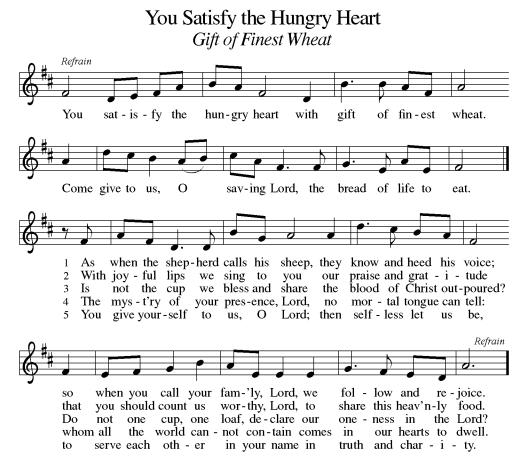


Setting JS Bach Contata No. 147, Jesus Bleibet Meine Freude Please join the Cantor

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus



Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891 Music: WERDE MUNTER, Johann Schop, 1600–1665; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Hold a brief silence.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

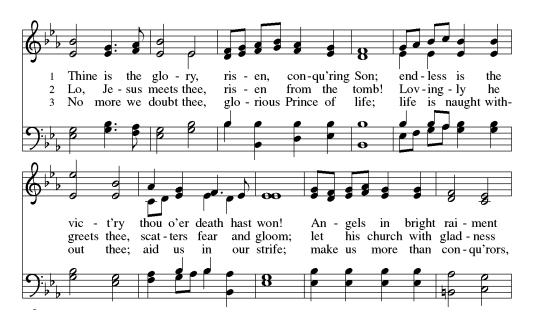
The blessing of God,

who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #376

Thine Is the Glory





Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ **Coffee hours** are hosted by congregational members who sign up on a sign-up sheet. If there is no one signed up, the coffee hour will be a potluck.

LEADING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

PRESIDING MINISTER AND PREACHERPASTOR BRUCE DAVIDSONASSISTING MINISTERELIZABETH BECKMUSICIANLARRY SMITH

| LECTOR | Том Веск |
|-------------|----------------|
| USHER | GORDON GERHART |
| Altar Guild | BERYL EVANS |
| HOSPITALITY | |

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| ELW #461 | <i>All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly</i> Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993 Music: W. Moore, <i>Columbian Harmony</i> , 1825; arr. Hymnal version |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ELW #515 | <i>Break Now the Bread of Life</i> Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt. Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888 |
| ACS #965 | <i>The Rice of Life</i> Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt. Music: J. Klug, <i>Geistliche Lieder</i> , 1543 |
| ELW #501 | <i>Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus</i> Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891 Music: Johann Schop, 1600-1665; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1695-1750 |
| ELW #484 | <i>You Satisfy the Hungry Heart</i> Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997 Music: Robert E. Krentz, 1922-1996 |

Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

ELW #376 Thine Is the Glory Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939 Music: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759