

## 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.**

**\*GATHERING SONG**

ELW #461

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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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.**





**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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

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](http://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



1 The rice of life from heav - en came to  
 2 True rice the hun - gry world has fed, the  
 3 The rice of God for all is meant; no  
 4 The liv - ing rice, for all a sign, came



bring true life from God a - bove. Re - ceive this gift; God's  
 rice re - quired for life be - low. Pro - vide this gift; God's  
 one who comes is turned a - way. Be - lieve in Christ whom  
 down e - ter - nal life to give. A - bide in Christ, the



mer - cy claim; in joy and pain give thanks for love.  
 mer - cy spread; in weak - ness God's com - pas - sion show.  
 God has sent; in hum - ble trust God's will o - bey.  
 liv - ing vine; in Christ, with peo - ple, die and live.

Text: J. Andrew Fowler, b. 1935  
 Music: BÍ-NĪU, I-to Loh, b. 1936  
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### **\*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**

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**

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'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, 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 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.**



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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

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## Setting JS Bach Contata No. 147, Jesus Bleibet Meine Freude

*Please join the Cantor*

## Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus



Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be.

And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!

Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav' n - ly strain;

but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

Music: WERDE MUNTER, Johann Schop, 1600-1665; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750



## You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

### *Gift of Finest Wheat*

*Refrain*

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joi - ce.  
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
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## 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**

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*  
where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

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 PREACHER

PASTOR BRUCE DAVIDSON

ASSISTING MINISTER

ELIZABETH BECK

MUSICIAN

LARRY SMITH

LECTOR

TOM BECK

USHER

GORDON GERHART

ALTAR GUILD

BERYL EVANS

HOSPITALITY

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**ELW #461** *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*  
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993  
Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. Hymnal version

**ELW #515** *Break Now the Bread of Life*  
Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.  
Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888

**ACS #965** *The Rice of Life*  
Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.  
Music: J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

**ELW #501** *Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus*  
Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891  
Music: Johann Schop, 1600-1665; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1695-1750

**ELW #484** *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*  
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