

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Barbara Albright
Communion Assistant: Kim Haberman
Ushers: Brad Baker, Chip Harward,
Taylor Pruettue, Al Pieschel, Jon Miller
Building Supervisors: Tommy Propst

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Beaty (friend of the Marlow's); Cecil Berry (friend of Gretchen Walker); Family of Michael Black (nephew of Patsy Black); Patsy Black; Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Noah Clifton; Bruce Coffey (friend of Mark Murphy); Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel); Jennifer Cook (friend of Fonda Shumate); Catherine Durst (daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges); Nadine Filipak (friend of Al & Dee Pieschel); Ed Frost (friend of the Marlow's); Tom Grady; Maureen Hollmeyer; Mary Frances Johnson (cousin of Francie Davis); Karen Johnston (friend of Judy Benz); Ruth Lawler (friend of Dee & Al Pieschel); John Ledford (brother of Deb Black); Barbara Merrell; Deb & Roger Myers (friends of Deb Black); Stan Parnell (friend of Rob & Debbie Davis); Al Pieschel; Lori Pittard; Tom Ridenhour.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for today are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Christine and Joseph Beasley, October 11, 2025.

TRUNK OR TREAT! – OCT. 26

Join us on **Sunday, October 26, 2025**, at our rear portico parking lot from 3:00pm - 5:00pm for St. James' annual Trunk or Treat event! Enjoy candy, popcorn, music, and games! If you can host a "trunk" or help run a game, please let us know: info@sjnc.net.

Candy Donations Welcome! - See basket at portico door!

To assist in your offering
Secure Online Giving



Open Camera – Scan QR Code
Thank you for supporting St. James!

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 12, 2025

The Holy Communion
10:00am



St. James Lutheran Church
104 Union Street South
PO Box 684
Concord, North Carolina 28026
704-786-0166
www.sjnc.net
Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Pastor

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

Maybe you need forgiveness, or maybe you need to forgive ... Maybe you're tired and you need a little space to breathe ... Maybe you're trying church for the first time, or maybe you're trying church for the last time... Maybe you've spent your whole life wondering if God really loves you... Maybe you're lonely... Maybe you're sick... Maybe you came here looking for a miracle... Maybe you came here looking for another church but got disoriented and came here instead, and now it's too late to get up and walk out... Maybe, with God, there are no accidents... Maybe, with God, there is hope and healing and miraculous companionship... Maybe, with God, there is space to breathe and forgiveness on top of forgiveness... Maybe, with God, there is love... Maybe, with God here in our midst, we will hear those words that still split open the heavens, "You are my son! You are my daughter! You are my beloved. You. In you I am well pleased!" Maybe this is why we gather together, week after week after week, here at St. James.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this place - not just by the Saints at St. James, but by the God who revealed himself in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our brother, and our friend.

Welcome to St. James.

If you are comfortable doing so, please introduce yourself to Pastor Bill. If you have visited with us a number of times and think you might want to "make it official," please speak to Pastor Bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to the person next to you or to an usher.

Restrooms are located on the first and second floor of the Education Building. A **nursery** is available for children up to and including five years of age on the first floor of the education building. An usher will be happy to help you find them.

If you're visiting or if you have been here for 99 years (and are willing to do so), please sign a pew pad.

Let us know you visited!



Scan to connect!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- Oct. 12 – Patsy Black
- Oct. 15 – Erin Everett, Morgan Rooker
- Oct. 17 – Isla Glatz
- Oct. 18 – Laura Baker

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Oct. 12	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
	2:00pm	CROP Hunger Walk (First Pres.)
Monday, Oct. 13	10:30am	Quilting
	6:30pm	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, Oct. 14	Noon	Lively Leisures
	6:00pm	Congregation Council
Thursday, Oct. 16	6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, Oct. 18	8:30am	Leah's Hope Trailer
Sunday, Oct. 19	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship

Lifeline's Million Meals Tour – Oct. 25

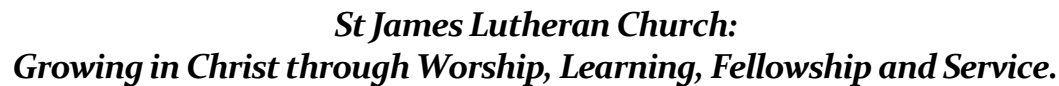
Join us at Atrium Ballpark in Kannapolis as Lifeline Christian Mission hosts the Million Meals Tour! St. James is providing 20 volunteers on **Saturday, Oct. 25 at 9:00am**. Meal packing takes about 1.5 hours leaving plenty of time to enjoy downtown afterward!

Sign up: sjnc.net/special-event-sign-ups

Operation Christmas Child

It's that time again! Help share God's love by packing a shoebox for a child in need. Boxes and instructions are available in the portico. Please return unsealed shoeboxes by **Nov. 16**. Questions? Contact Samantha Hillegass.

More information in our Ring Out newsletter; subscribe at: sjnc.net.



G. F. Handel

THE INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P 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.

C Amen

P 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.

Please sit or kneel, as able.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

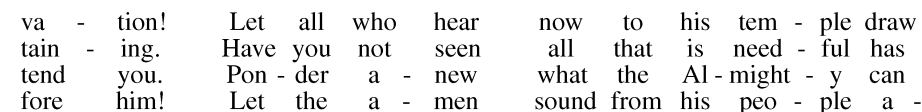
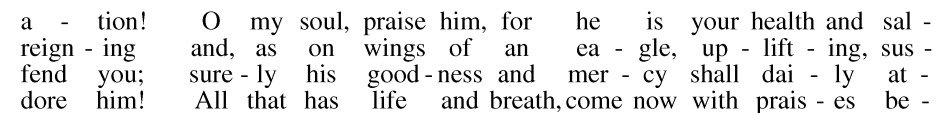
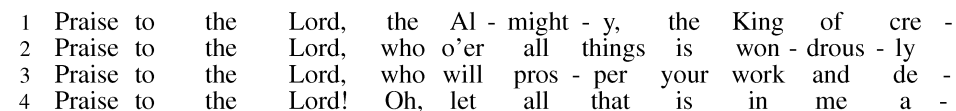
P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN: #543 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

When not printed, hymn harmonies may be found in the green LBW hymnal.





near, join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 been sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 do if with his love he be - friend you.
 gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 C And also with you.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
 C And also with you.
 P Almighty God, source of every blessing, your generous goodness comes to us anew every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
 C Amen.



Please sit.
 THE FIRST READING: II Kings 5:1-15c

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman’s wife. ³ She said to her mistress, ‘If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.’ ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ And the king of Aram said, ‘Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.’
 He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶ He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, ‘When

this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.’ 7 When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, ‘Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.’

8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, ‘Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.’ 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha’s house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, ‘Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.’ 11 But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, ‘I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?’ He turned and went away in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, ‘Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, “Wash, and be clean”?’ 14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

15 Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, ‘Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant.’

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: II Timothy 2:8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, 9 for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. 11 The saying is sure:

 If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him;
 if we deny him, he will also deny us;

13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
 for he cannot deny himself.

14 Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.
THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

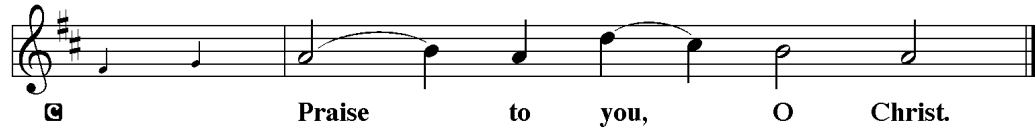
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13 they called out, saying, ‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!’ 14 When he saw them, he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?’ 18 Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ 19 Then he said to him, ‘Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.’

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit.

THE SERMON

Pastor Bill Ridenhour

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #431 Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old was strong to heal and save;
2 And lo, your touch brought life and health, gave speech and strength and sight;
3 Oh, be our great de - liv - 'rer still, the Lord of life and death;



it tri-umphed o'er dis - ease and death, o'er dark - ness and the grave.
and youth re - newed and fren - zy calmed re - vealed you, Lord of light.
re - store and quick - en, soothe and bless, with your life - giv - ing breath.



To you they came, the blind, the dumb, the pal - sied and the lame,
And now, O Lord, be near to bless, al - might - y as be - fore,
To hands that work and eyes that see give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r,



the lep - ers in their mis - er - y, the sick with fe - vered frame.
in crowd - ed street, by beds of pain, as by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.
that whole and sick and weak and strong may praise you ev - er - more.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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. Amen

THE PRAYERS

Please sit or kneel, as able.

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all those
according to their needs.

A Father, thank you for your steadfast love and every good gift that you give us.
We are so blessed. Tune our hearts to sing your praise. Make our feet lovely
with the eagerness to run to others with tokens of your mercy and goodness.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to your Church a faithful love for you and for one another. Let it be like
the little Hebrew girl who pointed Naaman to the One who could heal his body
and capture his heart. Stir up in your Church the thankful worship of the
Samaritan leper. Grant it the bold and truthful witness of Paul and Timothy. In

other words, give your church righteous pastors and people! And use your Church to show your goodness toward those who fear you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation – its people, its ministries, and its mission. In all things, use us to point others to Jesus, so that many people may receive his life and salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our world, broken by evil and bruised by violence. By your Spirit, cause all of us to love your Word and seek to obey your commandments. Give wisdom, integrity, and common sense to our elected and appointed leaders. Guide all who are entrusted with authority in government, commerce, education, and whatever else affects your people in their everyday lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be gracious and merciful to widows and widowers, to the chronically ill and marginalized, and to all are embittered by loss and grief. Help us to walk with them, encourage them, and show them kindness and understanding. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our Lord Jesus, in his infinite compassion, healed ten lepers. We pray that he do so the same for everyone afflicted by disease, despair, or the shadow of death. Grant them healing, hope, and grateful hearts; and reunite them with all who love them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most Holy and blessed Father, bring your perfect, eternal healing to all who have died trusting in your promises. Comfort all who mourn. Give us devoted friendship, diligent service, and grateful hearts. For Jesus' sake, deliver us from evil and forgive us our sins. Heal us in body, soul, mind, and heart, so with our whole being, we may love and praise you eternally in the company of everyone you have redeemed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

Please sit.

THE ANTHEM

And the Father Shall Dance

Hayes

*And the Father will dance over you in joy!
He will take delight in whom He loves.
Is that a choir I hear, singing the praises of God?
No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song!
And He will joy over you in song.*

*My soul will make its boast in God,
For He has answered all my cries,
His faithfulness in me
is as sure as the dawn of a new day.*

*Awake, my soul, and sing!
Let my spirit rejoice in God!*

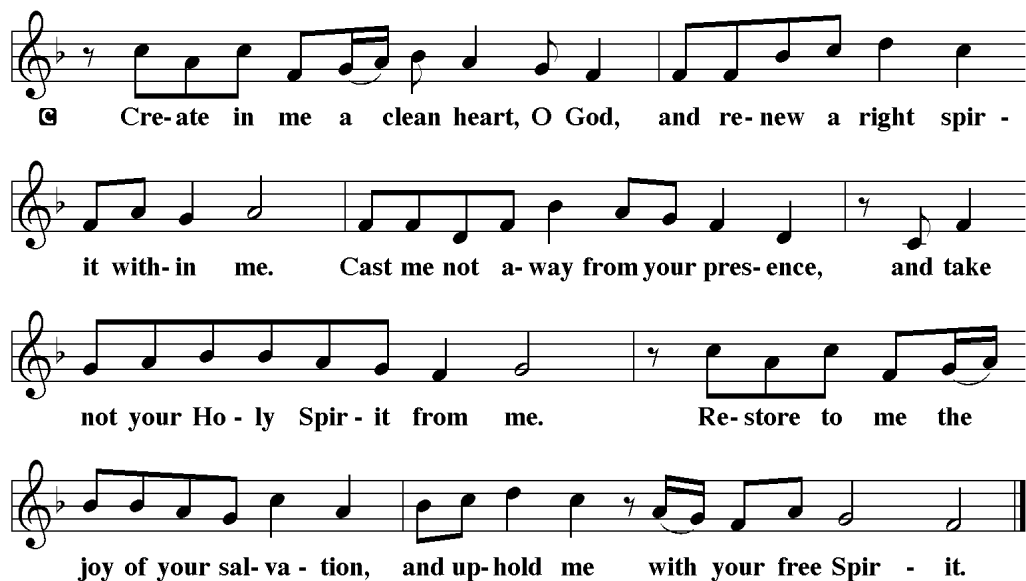
*Sing, O daughter of Zion, with all of your heart!
Cast away fear for you have been restored!
Put on the garment of praise
as on a festival day.
Join with the Father in glorious, jubilant song!*

*And He will joy over you in song;
And the Father will dance over you in joy!
God rejoices over you in song!*

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

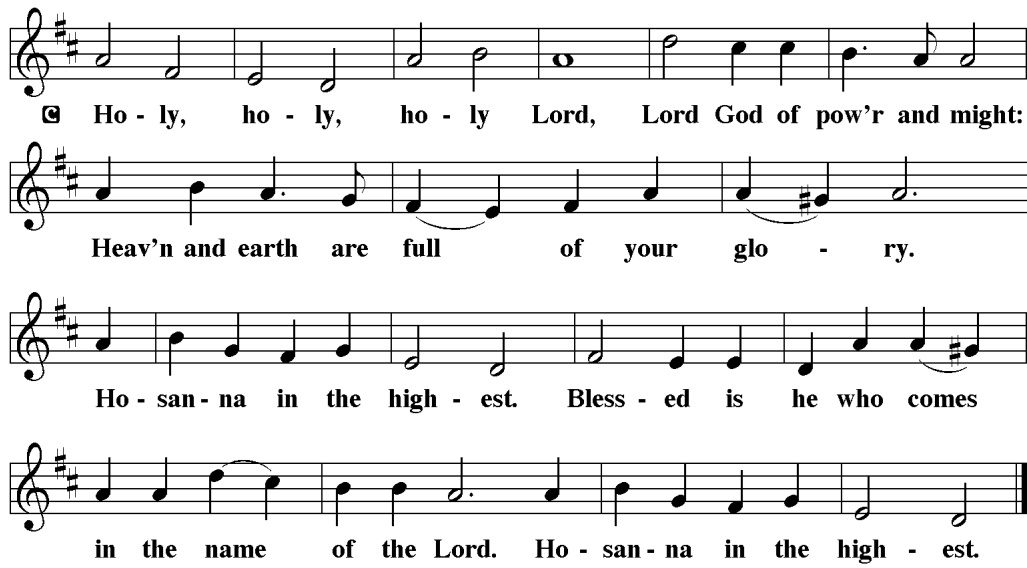
A Let us pray.
A Blessed are you,
C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**



THE COMMUNION RITE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

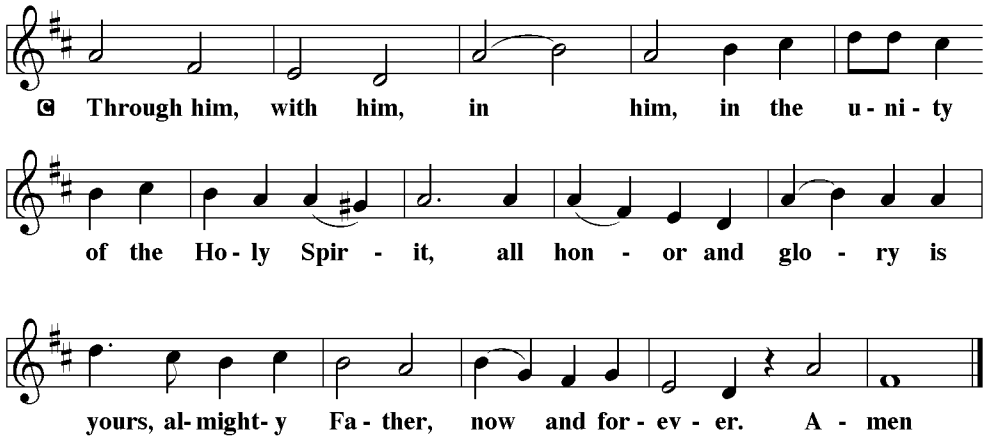
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the incarnation of your Son:
his human birth and the covenant he made with us.
We remember the sacrifice of his life:
his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death.
But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb,
his ascension to the seat of power,
and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit.
We cry out for the resurrection of our lives,
when Christ will come again in beauty and power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we and all who share in this bread and cup
may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven,
and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,

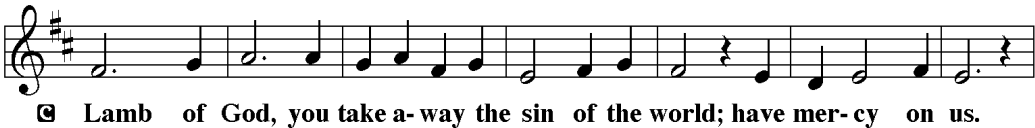
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al - might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:
C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

Q: What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

A: We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.

-Luther’s Small Catechism Part V

Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you wish for the pastor to bring communion to you. Please advise an usher.

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray,

A Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord

C **Amen**



THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

THE SENDING HYMN: #559 Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er’s praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He breaks the pow’r of can-celed sin; he sets the pris-’ner free.
5 To God all glor-y, praise, and love be now and ev-er giv’n



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner’s ears, brings life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a-vails for me.
by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the church in earth and heav’n.

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Allegro in G Major

Schmidt



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