#### **ASSISTING IN WORSHIP**

Lector/Intercessor: Gretchen Walker Communion Assistant: Christine Ruff Ushers: Brad Baker, Chip Harward, Taylor Pruette, Al Pieschel, Jon Miller Videographer: Jean Beasley

Greeter: Gretchen Walker
Building Supervisor: Glenda Poole

#### **PRAYER LIST**

Brad Baker; Joyce Beaty (friend of the Marlow's); Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Noah Clifton; Bruce Coffey (friend of Mark Murphy); Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel); Margaret Fink; Anne Fridlund; Ed Frost (friend of the Marlow's); Tim Gibson (friend of Deb Black); Tom Grady; Linda Jones (family of Barbara & Dale Merrell); Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow (friends of Shannon Nesbit); Tom Ridenhour; Geoff & Pam Seige (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis).

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Today's flowers are given by Jeff Koenig and Ashley Cline to the Glory of God in honor of their beloved dog Callie, who crossed the rainbow bridge, and in tribute to all who cherish the unconditional love of a pet. We love and miss you, Callie.

#### SUPPORT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Pick up a shoebox from the portico area and follow the instructions to sponsor a box! Please be sure to return your shoebox (unsealed) by **Sunday**, **Nov. 17th.** 

#### TRUNK OR TREAT – TODAY!

Join us today, **Sunday**, **October 27**, **2024**, **4:30pm - 6:00pm** for St. James' annual Trunk or Treat event! Enjoy candy, popcorn, music, and games!

#### **SALVATION ARMY MEAL WEEK - THIS WEEK!**

St. James is committed to covering dinners **Sunday 10/27 through Saturday 11/2** at the Salvation Army Night Shelter. If you can provide a meal this week, please sign up at the link: <a href="https://bit.ly/MealWeek">https://bit.ly/MealWeek</a>.

#### A CELEBRATION CONCERT!

Join us **Saturday, Nov. 2 at 7:00pm** for A Concert of Celebration! – *featuring* The St. James Parish Choir and Orchestra under the new leadership of conductor Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music.

The Festival of The Reformation October 27, 2024

# 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

# 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.

# WESTERN NC HELENE RELIEF

St. James Church Council invites you to support Hurricane Helene recovery efforts in Western NC. Donations will go to the NC Synod Disaster Fund to help impacted congregations. Please label your gift "Helene Relief." Contributions received by **November 10th** will be forwarded the following week.

#### **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Oct. 23 - Nancy Faggart

Oct. 27 - Michael Folino, Joan McEachern

Oct. 28 - Cliff Caffrey, Linda Hartsell, Riley Moran, Taylor Pruette, Heather Wilson

Oct. 30 – Adam Hartman, Jackson Propst

Nov. 1 – Juanita Fitts

Nov. 2 – Mary Elizabeth Stewart, Patricia Weisel

## **CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK**

# Salvation Army Meal Week

	Sulvation Aimy Meal Week		
Sunday, Oct. 27	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School	
	9:00 am	Parish Choir	
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School	
	10:00 am	Worship	
	4:30 pm	Trunk or Treat!	
Monday, Oct. 28	10:30 am	Quilting	
•	6:30 pm	Bible Study	
	6:30 pm	Scouts	
Tuesday, Oct. 29	7:00 pm	Cottage Meeting (Mike &	

Tuesday, Oct. 29	7:00 pm	Cottage Meeting (Mike & Kristin Rinker)

Wednesday, Oct. 30	5:30 pm	Handbells
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, Nov. 3	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School

Worship 10:00 am

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

A Concert of Celebration! November 2: Congregation Meeting November 17:

November 24: Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Party

December 1: **Advent Tree Lighting** 

Bethlehem at the Farm – https://bit.ly/VolunteerBATF December 8:





# The Festival of the Reformation

The Festival of the Reformation is to be understood and observed not as a triumphalist celebration as though all error was purged from the church forever in 1517 (Luther nailed his 95 theses, questioning abuses in the sale of indulgences, to the castle church door in Wittenburg on 31 October 1517). Rather it is a day of humble recollection of the revolutionary and cleansing Word of God, which is continually reforming and renewing God's church. It is a day that reminds God's people of the provisional nature of all that is less than God, and of the sovereignty of God alone, who is always free to tear up and destroy in order to build and plant anew. Reform and renewal is not a once-forall event, nor even an occasional eruption, but rather a continuing condition of the church.

A more irenic (a part of Christian theology concerned with reconciling different denomintions and sects) date for the commemoration of the Reformation is June 25, the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, which makes clearer the Lutheran understanding of itself not as a separate denomination but as a reforming movement within the Catholic Church of the West.

-From New Book of Festivals & Commemorations. Philip H. Pfatteicher © Fortress Press. 2008

#### COPYRIGHT:

**POSTLUDE** 

Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Licenses SAS-002140, SB177826.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Translation and Arrangement) © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Licenses SAS-002140, SB177826. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.

# St James Lutheran Church: Growing in Christ through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service.



Welcome

Prelude Nun Danket alle Gott (Now Thank We All Our God) Karg-Elert

Please stand.

#### THE INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

#### THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

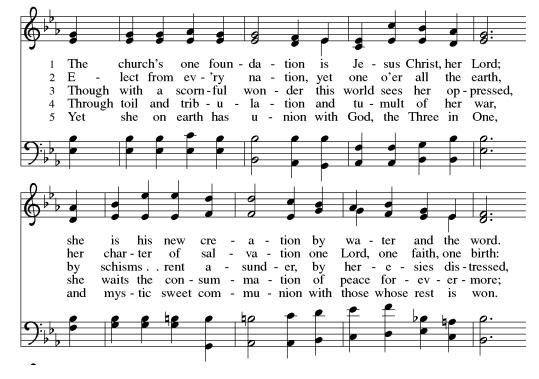
- Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Amen.
- If we say we have no 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,
- 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: The Church's One Foundation





# THE DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

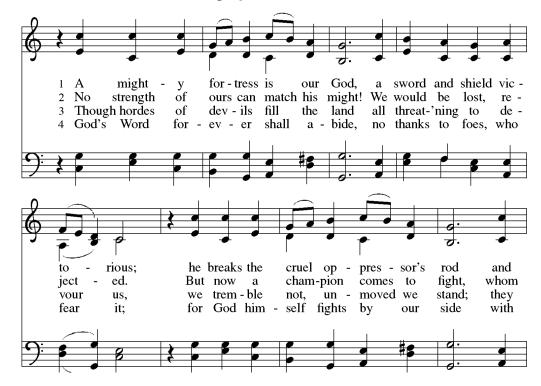
- P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen

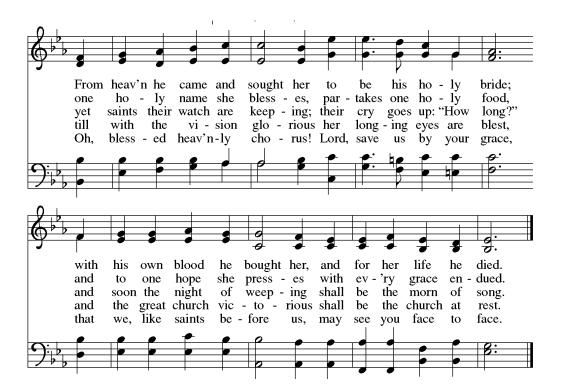


#### THE BENEDICTION

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

# THE SENDING HYMN: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God





#### THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

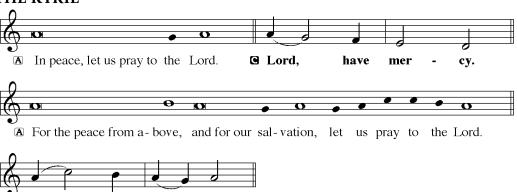
have

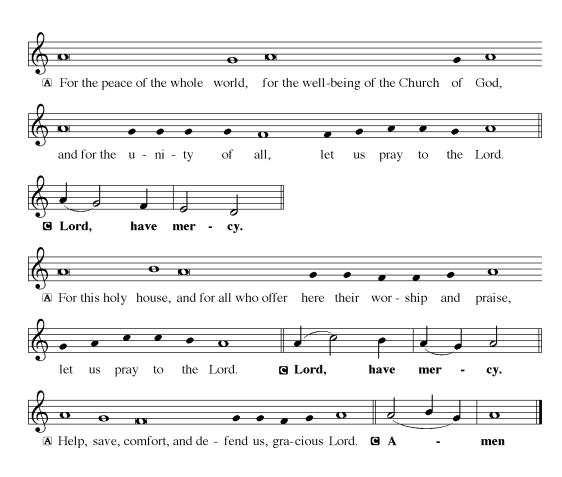
mer - cy.

- 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.

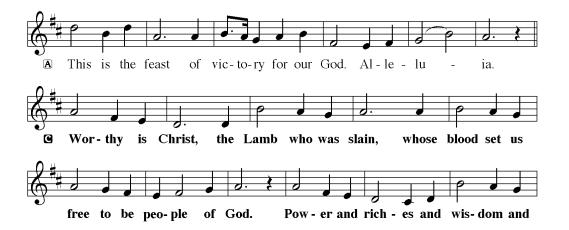
#### THE KYRIE

Lord.





#### THE HYMN OF PRAISE



#### THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

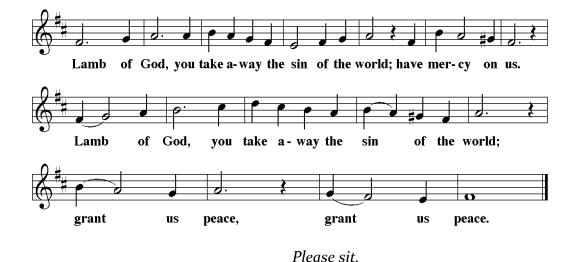
- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen

## THE POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray.



#### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

- O: 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. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you are unable to come to the altar, the pastor will bring communion to you at your seat. Please advise an usher.

Please stand.



#### THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen

#### Please sit.



# THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

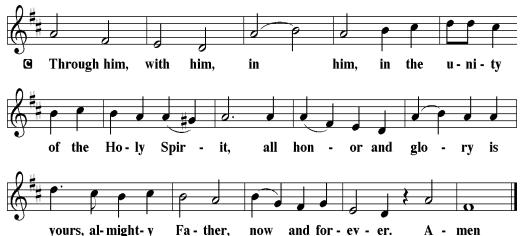
# THE SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works?

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.



- 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.



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

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his 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.

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, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
- C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

#### Please stand.

#### THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



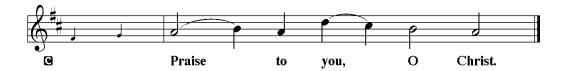
#### THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.



<sup>46</sup>As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup>When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>48</sup>Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>49</sup>Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." <sup>50</sup>So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." <sup>52</sup>Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



# THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



THE NICENE CREED
We believe in one God,



#### 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 Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; Dem wir das Heilig itzt Mit Freuden lassen klingen Und mit der Engel Schar Das Heilig, Heilig singen, Den herzlich lobt und preist Die ganze Christenheit: Gelobet sei mein Gott In alle Ewigkeit! To whom we now let "holy" ring forth with joy, and with the throng of angels sing "holy, holy," who is heartily honored and praised by all of Christianity: praised be my God in all eternity!

Please stand.

#### THE OFFERTORY



#### THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray.
- A Blessed are you,
- 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 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.

With the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Please sit or kneel, as able.

#### THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
- A For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy church of God, and for the unity of all peoples; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For all the holy people of God, for the clergy, for Timothy and all bishops and all leaders; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For our president, for the leaders of nations, for all in authority that their leadership may foster compassion and justice, Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For this city of Concord, for every city and community, and for those who live in them; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.

- A For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, for the sick and suffering, and all who we remember silently in our hearts; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and disgrace; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- A For all the saints now resting from their labors; Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer.
- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen

#### THE PEACE

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

Please sit.

THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM

Dem wir das Heilig itzt

(from Cantata No. 129, Gelobet sei der Herr)

J. S. Bach