

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Barbara Albright
Communion Assistant: Elizabeth Hurley
Ushers: Brad Baker, Chip Howard,
Taylor Pruette, Al Pieschel, Jon Miller
Videographer: Ann Blackwelder
Greeter: Gretchen Walker
Building Supervisors: Ashley Cline

PRAYER LIST

Tom Grady; Tom Ridenhour; Noah Clifton; Linda Jones (family members of Barbara & Dale Merrell); Susan Tadlock (friend of Deb Black); Mary Dorothy White (friend of Patsy Black). Angie Buchanan.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for today are given to the Glory of God with thanks for the St. James congregation by Dee and Al Pieschel.

YOUTH MEETING II

Middle and High School youth are invited to join Mike Holt and Pastor Bill immediately after worship on June 9th in the fellowship hall. This is a time for you to help us, help you. Is youth group a priority for you? What activities would excite you? If you (or your parents) are interested in confirmation in the fall, please join us.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Children and Volunteers...Please save the dates July 28-30, 2024, for Vacation Bible School. All volunteers will be required to have a current Safe Gatherings background check. Please contact the Church Office to complete this process.

St. James Staff

Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Senior Pastor; prbill@sjnc.net
Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator; jill@sjnc.net
Holly Sloop, Communications Coordinator; holly@sjnc.net
Church Office: 704-786-0166; info@sjnc.net
Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator; krad3700@gmail.com
Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian

The Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 2, 2024
The Holy Communion
10:00am

But, we have ...



this treasure in clay jars.

II Cor. 4:7

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.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

June 3 Michael Holt, Nancy Hopkins, Jack Nivens III
June 4 Thomas Propst, Jr., Miles Walker
June 5 Mark Davis, Joe Wilson

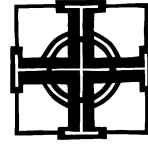
CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 2	9:00 am	Parish Summertime Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Evangelism Committee
Monday, June 3	10:30am	Quilting
Tuesday, June 4	10:30 am	Mary Magdalene Circle
	5:00 pm	Executive Committee
Sunday, June 9	9:00 am	Parish Summertime Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Youth Meeting II (Fellowship Hall)

May 12, 2024, Council Meeting Summary

Property Committee: bell-tower re-roofing to take place in June. **Communication committee** has completed the technical audits that included network software, WIFI system, and equipment needs, etc. This project is an effort to upgrade and improve the delivery of communications to variety of staff and members. Thank you to Holly for the improved efficiency and upgrades for the current communication media. **Human Resource committee** greatly appreciates the volunteers who have been serving as office receptionists. The receptionist job description has been completed, but the need for an employed receptionist is still under evaluation. **HR** also has completed the St. James Personnel Handbook. **Executive Committee** is working with council to define their roles and parameters. **Stewardship Committee:** Introduction of the program "Stewardship for all Seasons" to a volunteer team in May with the beginning steps for the program taking place in June. Pastor Bill took opportunity to meet with "Legacy for Giving" Coordinator to go through that process. It was time well spent and good information. Crop Walk announced for October. **Finances** are trending upward.

The Postlude



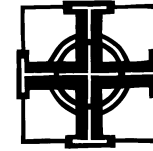
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THE HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering



Welcome (9:55am)

THE PRELUDE

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

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: O Day of Rest and Gladness

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

THE SENDING HYMN

Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

THE DISMISSAL

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

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 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.

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.

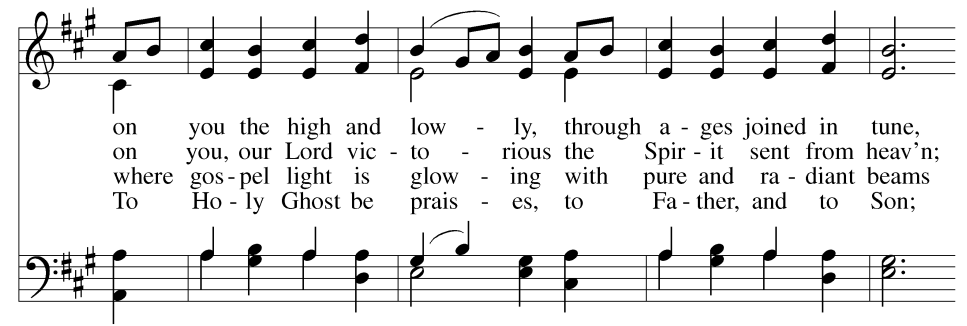
C Amen



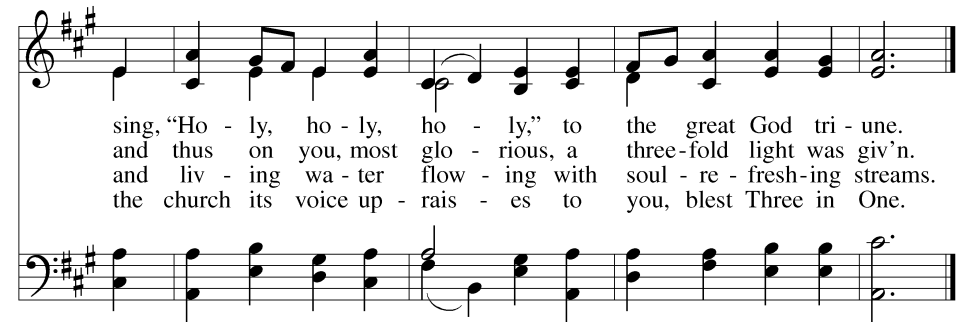
THE BENEDICTION

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

C Amen



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
To Ho - ly Ghost be prais - es, to Fa - ther, and to Son;



sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

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 PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Lord God of all nations, you have revealed your will to your people and promised your help to us all. Help us to hear and to do what you command, that the darkness may be overcome by the power of your light; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Please sit.

Word



THE FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 5:12-15

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



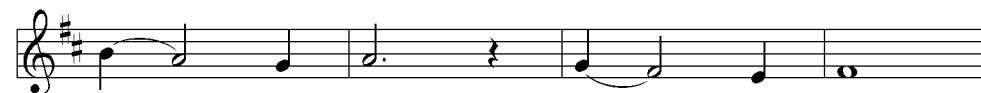
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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. 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

P Holy, mighty and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

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.**

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 2nd and 3rd chapters.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: All Depends on our Possessing

1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and
2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y
3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -
4 Well you know what best to grant me; all the long - ing
5 If on earth my days should length - en, God, my wea - ry

con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.
new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.
hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.
soul still strength - en; all my trust in you I place.

They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are
God, who did so gent - ly school me and who dai - ly
To your lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der all my be - ing
I shall doubt your wis - dom nev - er; as you will, so
Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -

Table



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

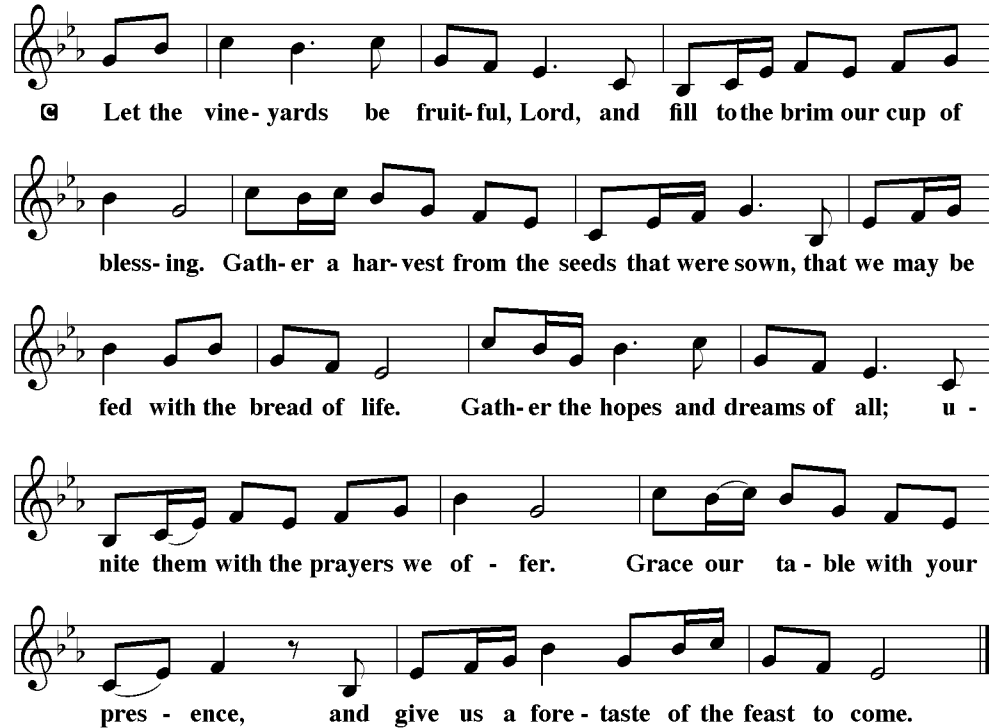
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



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

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



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
I sur - ren - der; Lord, on you a - lone I build.
be it ev - er; I com - mit to you my way.
way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in your grace.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 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 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 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 for 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.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please sit.

During the choir's summer hiatus, there may be an anthem, a solo, a duet, an organ piece, an opportunity for silent reflection ...

THE OFFERING