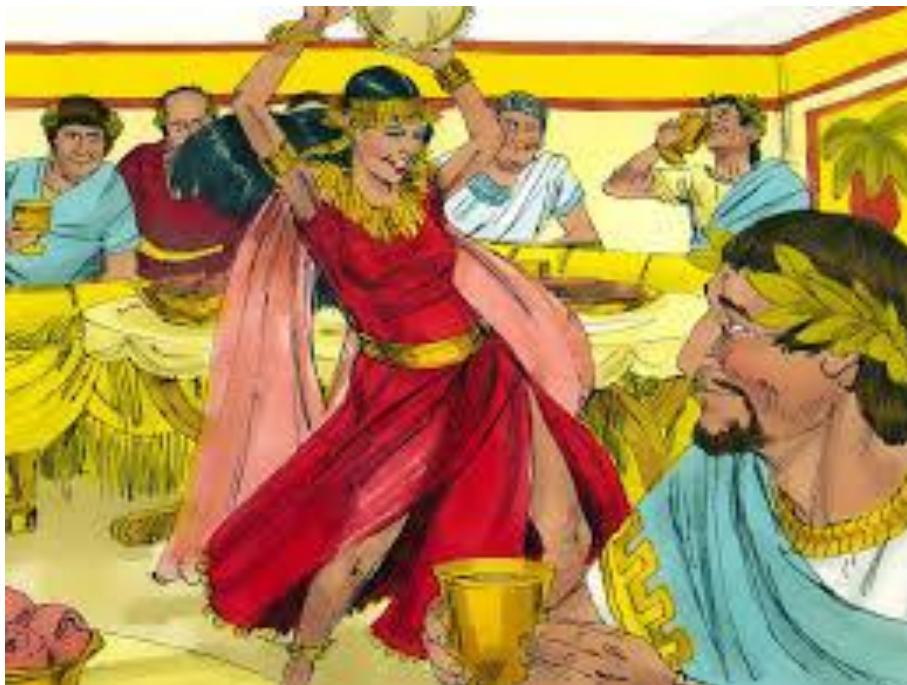


***The Lutheran Church of the Covenant***  
***“Reaching Out, Reflecting Christ, Renewing Lives”***



*Eighth Sunday After Pentecost*  
*July 14, 2024*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



We welcome you to worship here at the Lutheran Church of the Covenant! Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life together!

- Bulletins and Communion (wheat or gluten-free wafers, wine or grape juice options) are available to be picked up at the side driveway. Please keep in mind potential wind that may affect your Communion cups.
- You may stay in your vehicle or setup a chair anywhere you like. Speakers will be set up front by the worship leaders so that everyone can hear and participate from their respective spots.
- We encourage you to participate throughout the worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!
- You will not be asked to stand during the worship, so feel free to remain seated throughout.
- An offering basket is placed up-front by the podium.

*The Lutheran Church of the Covenant  
19000 Libby Rd.*

*Maple Heights, OH 44137*

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*Email: [Martin@covenantmaplehts.org](mailto:Martin@covenantmaplehts.org)  
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## **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

*When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.*

Prelude

Welcome & Greetings

Confession & Forgiveness

God has accomplished all things through Christ,  
so that we might live as God's own children.  
Jesus loves us with steadfast tenderness;  
therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

Holy God,  
**you call us to be your beloved children and to  
care for one another,  
yet we fail to love others and ourselves.  
Helpless and ashamed, we turn our hearts to you.  
Forgive us, and then tenderly teach us  
to stand strong and courageous in the fullness  
of your love,  
by the grace and mercy of Christ. Amen.**

Siblings in Christ, God forgives us and  
strengthens us for love;  
✠therefore be at peace with your forgiveness. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn *To Be Your Presence* (Dufner)

ELW #546



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,  
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924  
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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.**

## Kyrie

*Assistant:*  
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Congregation:*  
Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -

God. *\* Ending for Kyrie*  
A - men.

God.  
A - men.

For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the  
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you  
cy.

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda

Help, save, and de - fend us, O  
cy.

\* Hymn *Now The Feast*

**Refrain**

Now the feast and celebra-tion,  
all of crea-tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free-dom: praise and glo-ry for ev -

**Verse 1**

er - more!  
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God.

*to Refrain*

### Verse 2



2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

### Verse 3



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *to Refrain*

### Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, from the foundation of the world,  
you have set a plumb line to measure our lives  
so that we may live in truth.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
strengthen our hands for building justice and  
making peace  
through the righteousness of Christ. **Amen.**

### First Lesson

Amos 7:7-15

*Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.*

<sup>7</sup> This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by;

<sup>9</sup> the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

<sup>10</sup> Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup> For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.’ ”

<sup>12</sup> And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; <sup>13</sup> but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

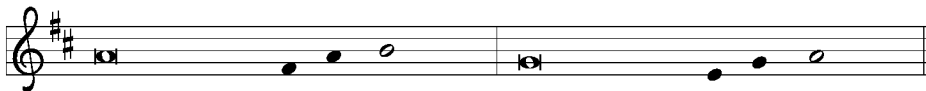
<sup>14</sup> Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, <sup>15</sup> and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

*The bold verses below are spoken by the congregation responsively*



Antiphon: *I will listen to what the LORD God is saying.* (Ps. 85:8)



<sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup> **Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell | in our land.** Antiphon

<sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;  
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,  
and our land will | yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> **Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD  
and shall prepare for | God a pathway.** Antiphon

## Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

*In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life! **Thanks be to God!**

*Congregation:*

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

*Repeat optional*

## Gospel

Mark 6:14-29

*As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.*

The Gospel according to Mark, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>14</sup> King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup> But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup> For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

<sup>18</sup> For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

<sup>19</sup> And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup> But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup> When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you

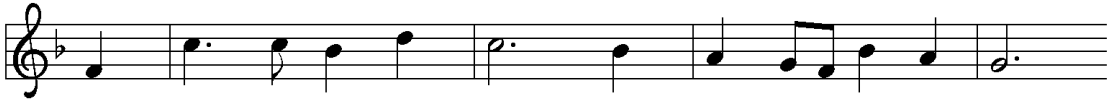
wish, and I will give it.”<sup>23</sup> And he solemnly swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.”<sup>24</sup> She went out and said to her mother, “What should I ask for?” She replied, “The head of John the baptizer.”<sup>25</sup> Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”<sup>26</sup> The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.<sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison,<sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.<sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

This is the holy Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Oh, Praise the Gracious Power* (Troeger)

ELW # 651



- 1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
- 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
- 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
- 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
- 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,<br/>the love, the word, the tide.<br/>Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,<br/>praise Christ the crucified: <i>Refrain</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 Oh, praise the living Christ<br/>with faith's bright songful voice!<br/>Announce the gospel to the world<br/>and with these words rejoice: <i>Refrain</i></li> </ol> |
|--|---|

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945  
 Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936  
 Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

## Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
 God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and 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.**

### 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.*

You gather your people into the body of Christ. Where your church is wounded, heal it. Where it is right, strengthen it. Where it is divided, reunite it. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From before the foundation of the world, you are God. Revive ecosystems destroyed by human greed. Curb our desire to put wealth ahead of the health of all who call this planet home. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You establish equity and make justice. Within every nation, tribe, and land, cause laws to be written and customs to be observed that protect the most vulnerable. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

On the cross your beloved Son endured pain and death. Bring healing to those in need, hope to any in despair, and comfort to the dying. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You send your Spirit into this community of faith. Empower our ministries that serve and build up local communities (ministries may be named). Nurture our partnerships with other community organizations. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All peoples praise you, O God. We give you thanks and praise for the lives of our loved

ones who now rest in you. In the fullness of time gather us with all your saints in light. In your mercy, **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.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of our savior and healer, Jesus Christ be with you always! **And Also with you.**

Music Interlude

The Offertory Hymn *As the Grains of Wheat*

## Refrain

*Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath - ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath - ered in - to one in you.

## Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*to Refrain*

Offertory Prayer

Almighty God,

we thank you  
 for calling us when we had no hope  
 and for crowning us with salvation.  
 We thank you  
 for enriching our lives with all that is good  
 and for providing for us in times of trial.  
 Make us ever more mindful  
 of the blessings you grant us each day;  
 deepen our trust in your love and mercy.  
 Increase our thanksgiving  
 by guiding our offerings to help others in need.  
 Unite us all in a community of thanksgiving,  
 always glorifying you, now and forever. **Amen**

## The Great Thanksgiving

HS page 14

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a rest for the Presider, followed by the Congregation's entry. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff continues with the Presider's part: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give" and the Congregation's part: "thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise." The third staff continues the Congregation's part.

*The presiding minister continues with the preface:*

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
 holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
 From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,



for Christ has risen from the tomb  
and scattered the darkness of death  
with light that will not fade.  
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,  
unfolds for us your word,  
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.  
And though the night will overtake this day  
you summon us to live in endless light,  
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.  
And so with choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts in heaven,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join their unending song of praise:

*The assembly sings:*

The musical score consists of two staves of music in G major (three sharps) and 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody from G4, moves to F#4, E4, D4, then to C4. The lyrics 'might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your' are written below. The second staff ends with a 3/8 time signature change and a final 6/8 time signature.



### \*Thanksgiving at the Table

We greet the one who comes in your name,  
your true light, your true love,  
the bread of compassion,  
the wine of renewal.



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.

As he broke bread before the brokenness of his death,  
as he poured out wine before his blood was poured out on the cross,  
as he gave his life in acts of goodness,  
as he invited all to the feast of new hope,  
so come to us, Lord, in your love.

Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love,  
and let the bread and wine before us  
bear your life to our life,  
nourish us with his vision of hope,  
and unite us in one body of peace.

Nourish us with your brokenness,  
and renew us with your poured out life,  
that we may take root in your risen life  
and bear fruit in your world. **Amen.**

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.**

Invitation to Communion



Jesus Christ, host of this meal,  
you have given us not only this bread and cup,  
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.  
Filled again by these signs of your grace,  
may we hunger for your reign of justice,  
may we thirst for your way of peace,  
for you are Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the Holy Trinity fill you with joy, surround you with peace, and lead you ✝ to  
eternal life. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (Rowsthorn) ELW# 579



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap -  
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

*Refrain*



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934  
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991  
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Dismissal

Go forth in joy and peace, for you are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Praying Together

**... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating:** Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Joan Clarke, Bruce Constant, Olive Evanofski, Barbara Fossa, Ken Frajter, Donna Franz, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Dylan King, Elaine Knerem, Jason Lanese, Nel Lanese, Barbara Mingee, Matthew Morrissey, Phyllis Nemeth, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Jean Rusher, Arlene Stoltz, Gwen Susaneck, Barb Toth, Maud Wright, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Bill Wilkens, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.

### **LAST WEEK**

General Fund receipts for week ending 7/7/2024: 1857.00

### ***Our Worship Leaders & Staff***

Presiding Minister  
Organist  
Lector  
Parish Administrator  
Custodian

Rev. Andrea McDonough  
Gerry Mass  
Allan Treichel  
Jennifer Lasher-Dobush  
Vince Besednjak

T Q G T Z H H V E O E T O T F G X J P H B K P T  
 H A I Q C Y I N T N Q P M K T P B E R P K M R E  
 E T T Y Q N W K K G E W D G C F I P A C H B Y S  
 T J X Z G W V Y Y I B W L J E T R U T H I U D Y  
 A D E H R X V J C E D L G C B B F W F D D O S A  
 X N F P J S S U G M J V O A L Y A S U G L M V H  
 N Z P X C M Z I A E K K T Z S M M E X C E P T B  
 U J R D Q W I Z I M F O M O I L K Z C K A T U G  
 X E L C O M E S N A Z X Z L O P A L D N M Z T V  
 C S U R V P N E Z P C T G S S Y S E Y O H T P A  
 I U W I J J Q K D I I I G X T H R O U G H B U G  
 O S H O Q F X N D N B I O I P M B M K J I G A M  
 M N Y E P O A H C R B E R B A I A T O Y Q W L F  
 V G K H Q B B D A M C Q M D I R I G H R K B H O  
 D B F C S O U D T E P M D I M N D N J O H N E D  
 T W Q E Q P A L Y E K H O X R A D Q X Z J I B E  
 J Q X J E V Q Z W N V X Q G X T L W A O F D F Q  
 R A O O S I P A P C S M J I U G I H N Q W D H H  
 N N W N T C Z U G E K P I X I U F Z S Y Y R L X  
 J D I E W B W A Y S H C D I J P E G W W C U E P  
 H X I F A T H E R F O L M O Y W T C E R S K H C  
 V T S H L Y I Z Z Z O H I A A Q E W R D R Z E U  
 C M D H L E P U O Y E A I R P E X P E N R B U Z  
 E M G L J V Y H U V U U D F R E Y T D X M Y Z R

Answered  
 Comes  
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Through  
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Except  
 Jesus  
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 To

Father  
 John  
 And  
 No