Dismissal

Go now, and follow Christ. Thanks be to God.

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, Jane Gradert, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Elaine Knerem, Jason Lanese, Nel Lanese, Barbara Mingee, Matthew Morrissey, Phyllis Nemeth, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Jean Rusher, Barb Toth, Maud Wright, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick,

Last Week

General Fund receipts for week ending 9/29/2024: \$1333.00

Our Worship Leaders & Staff

Presiding Minister Rev. Andrea McDonough

Organist Gerry Mass

Lector Ted Lockmiller

Parish Administrator Jennifer Lasher-Dobush

Custodian Vince Besednjak



Lutheran Church of the Covenant

Maple Heights, OH

World Communion Sunday

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

Bulletins and Communion (gluten-free bread, wine or grape juice options) are available during continuous communion.

We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!

Portions marked with * are when we invite you to stand as you are able to do so.

There will not be a separate time for an offering, so a basket is placed in the back for those who wish to support our local ministry as well as the wider church.

Chalice—

Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday, where we join with believers around the world to remember the gift of the Eucharist. The Lord's Supper is a means of God's grace— a way that we experience the awesome goodness of God.

On the chalice-shaped paper, take a moment to write down your thoughts about this great gift. Share a memory of communion or a few words that explain what communion means to you. When you come forward for communion, place your cup in the heart-shaped bowl on the altar.



*Prayer after Communion

You have met us at the table, Lord Jesus, to unite us with you and with brothers and sisters around the world. Go with us now into that world, that we might be a living sign of welcome among refugees, of freedom among the oppressed, of hope amid persecution, of peace amid violence, of living faith amid a culture of skepticism, and of loving kindness toward the earth and all her inhabitants. **Amen.**

*Blessing

You were called to this table. You were fed at this table. You were united at this table. Now, you are sent from this table into all the world. Go therefore into the world, with courage. And as you go, May the Spirit of power and love attend you, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ uphold you, and may the great forever. **Alleluia!**

*Sending Hymn The Peace of the Lord: ELW #646 (next page)

World Communion Sunday 9:00 a.m. October 6th, 2024

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

We have an advocate on high: Jesus Christ, who stooped down to save us from our sin but rose in honor and glory to reign forever. Therefore let us seek God's generous grace.

Loving God, you created us to live in relationship with you, to love and serve one another, and to care for all your creatures. Yet, in the hardness of our hearts, we dismiss your commandments and seek to go our separate ways. Lord, have mercy on us. Redeem, restore, and re-create us, for the sake of Christ our Savior. Amen.

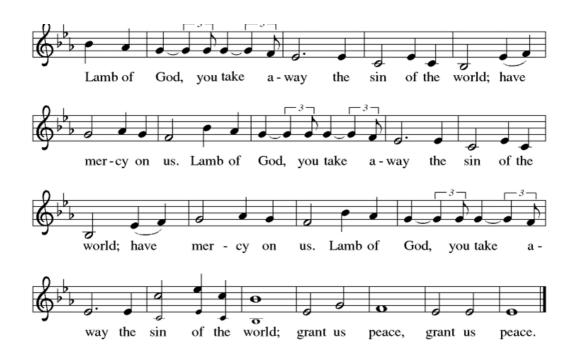
What are we that God is mindful of us? Who are we that God should care for us? Yet God now calls us beloved children; Jesus now claims us as sisters and brothers. This is the good news of God's grace: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gathering Hymn Let Us Go Now to the Banquet: ELW #523



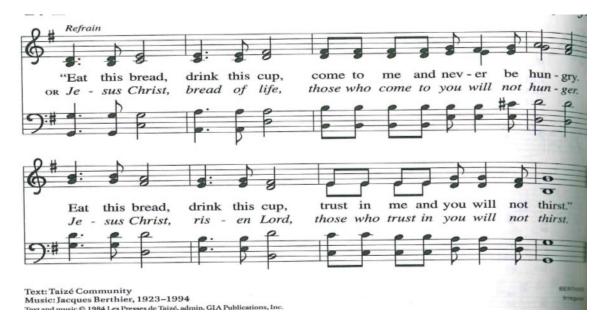
Greeting

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.**



Eat This Bread: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life ELW #472

Repeat multiple times



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 a as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion Hymns

*Kyrie



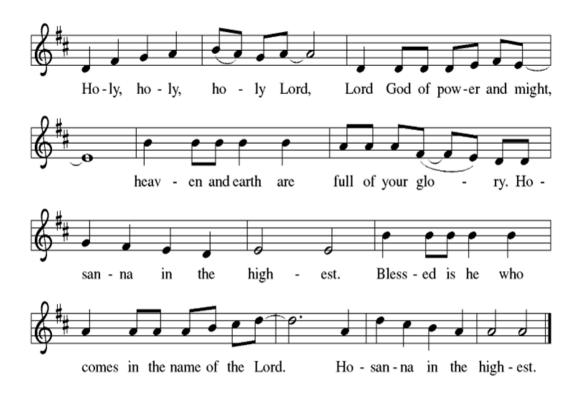
*Hymn of Praise



Today, Christ-followers meet in public worship and secret gatherings to break bread together. Today, in wealthy churches and hovels of poverty, wine is shared. In many different languages, by ordained clergy and volunteer pastors, these words of institution are given:

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus, gathered for supper with twelve of his closest friends, his disciples. He took the unleavened bread of the Passover feast, and when he had given thanks to God for it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup and gave it to His disciples, saying, "This cup is the new covenant – a new covenant in my blood, a new relationship with God, marked by the forgiveness of your sins. Drink of it, all of you in remembrance of me." And so today, every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember our Lord's death, and we hope for the day when he shall come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break together, and the cup we share together, may retell our common stories together and reshape our common bonds together, and remember our common grace together, in the communion of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ, the one in whose life and death you have torn down our divisions. **Amen.**



Lord, blessed are you and blessed is your eternal table. You welcome all who thirst for justice and hunger to grow in love. You ask us to extend this same welcome to all our neighbors, but God, since our beginning, we have struggled.

And so in your love for us, you took on flesh in Jesus. Through his life, you pointed to your presence on the margins. You revealed the sacredness in all life. You showed us how to live together, even among forces of destruction.

Believing it could transform the world, Jesus proclaimed the Good News. He called for the captives to be set free. He spoke of the low-ly being lifted up. He talked of redistributing wealth and eradicating the causes of poverty. His commitment to practicing love knew no bounds – not even the bounds of death.



*Prayer of the Day

God of all nations, we give you thanks that we are all made in your image, with such rich diversity. On this day we are in solidarity with the faithful around the world. As we break bread together, we remember that we are still one body in you, even though we have different languages, cultures and traditions, different ways of worship, praying and praising. In solidarity we drink the cup together of hope, of new life, knowing that your will is for your people to be one body. We are one body, but we are not the same—it is through the gift of diversity that we are able to be your body. We thank you and praise you for making us all who we are, individually and collectively. **Amen.**

A Reading from Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a yearold male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. 13 The blood shall

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

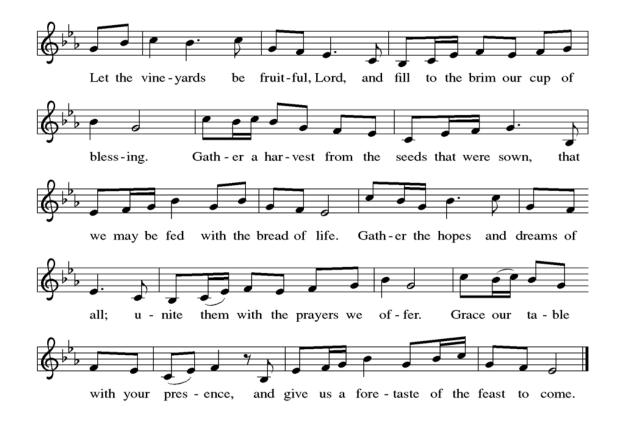
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, your invitation to come and feast in your presence is but a taste of the love you extend to us every minute of every day. By your very nature, you are always seeking us out – searching for ways to connect us and connect with us. You meet us in the most ordinary of places and you make them sacred. By your grace, we come to recognize the holiness that dwells in the world around us, in our neighbors, in our own internal depths.

Therefore we join our voices with your people on earth and all the company of the heavens, to sing your praise and join the neverending hymn:

*Sanctus (next page)



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, our Comfort. You have given Jesus, your only son, who was made lower than the angels, for our sake.

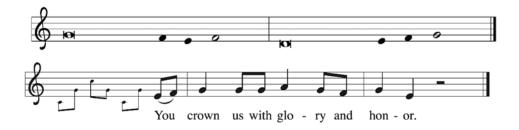
With thanksgiving, we give of what you have provided, that your will may be done in this world. Give us the wisdom and courage to do so. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

13 The LORD said to Moses, ² "Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine." ³ Moses said to the people, "Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the LORD brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. ⁴ Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. 5 When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. ⁶ Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the LORD. ⁷ Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. ⁸ You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.'

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8



You crown us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:5)

¹O | LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe $\sp \mid$ and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work [|] of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set [|] in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them, human beings that you should | care for them? Antiphon

⁵Yet you have made them little less ¹ than divine; with glory and hon- ¹ or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works [|] of your hands; you have put all things un- [|] der their feet:

⁷all ^I flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in lall the earth! Antiphon

Prayers of Intercession

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence is kept.

Each portion of the prayers ends with:

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. . **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And Also with you.

Music Interlude

The Offertory Hymn Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord (next page)

*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,

was crucified, died and was buried;

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

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.

A Reading from Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.





*Gospel: Luke 22:14-20

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

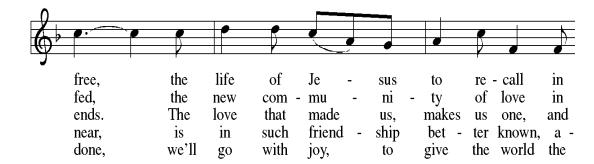
Sermon

Hymn of the Day I Come With Joy

ELW #482



- I come with joy, a child of God, for giv en, loved, and
- I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
- 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di vi sion
- 4 The Spir it of the ris en Christ, un seen, but ev en 5 To geth er met, to geth er bound by all that God ha





love laid down for me,
Christ's com-mu - nion bread,
strang - ers now are friends,
live a - mong us here,
love that makes us one,

in love laid down for me.
in Christ's com-mu - nion bread.
and strang - ers now are friends.
a - live a - mong us here.
the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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