

# Ascension of Our Lord

*ELW Setting One*

May 21, 2023

10:30 am



**Grace Lutheran Church**

Wenatchee, WA

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation



## Welcome to Grace!

*The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.*

*We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.*

*You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.*

*As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.*

**Holy Communion:** We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!

**If you are worshipping with children:** Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options especially for our young worshipers. **Children's bulletins** are available from the ushers. We have a **Cozy Corner**, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed **nursery** available during our worship gathering. You will find it downstairs, through the first door to the right at the bottom of the stairs.

**Our Mission Statement:** "To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."

**A note regarding livestreaming at Grace:** With your participation in our worship services, we assume you have granted us permission to include you in our videos. If you have a concern about being included, please let the staff know, and we will help find a solution that meets your needs.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY:** In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**WELCOME**

**KIDS' TALK**

**PRELUDE**

***Interpretation on Beautiful Savior***

David Cherwien

*Please stand as you are able*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**C** Amen.

- P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.  
Holy God,  
holy and merciful,  
holy and mighty,  
you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring.  
In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.  
Glory to you for oceans and lakes,  
for rivers and streams.  
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.  
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.
- G** **Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection.  
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**
- P** Satisfy the world's need through this living water.  
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.  
Where despair prevails, grant hope.  
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.  
We ask this through Christ,  
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
- G** **Amen.**



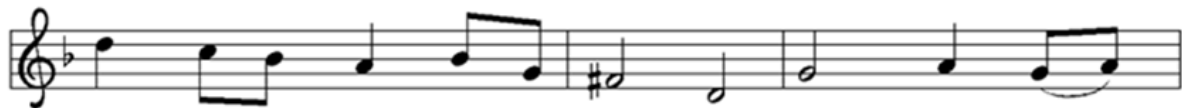
Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev - er;



day when our Lord was raised, break-ing the king - dom of death.



*Ascension* 1 He who was nailed to the cross is . .  
 3 God the Al - might - y, the Lord, the . .  
 5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r, now . .



rul - er and Lord of all peo - ple. All things cre -  
 rul - er of earth and the heav - ens, guard us from  
 flow in us, fount of our be - ing, light that en -



at - ed on earth sing to the glo - ry of God:  
 harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
 light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide:

*Refrain*

Verses 2,4,6 on next page



Ascension 2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
4 Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our  
6 Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and



glo - ry of blos - som; heav - en its gates now un -  
minds, great re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
Au - thor of con - cord, pour out your balm on our



bars, fling - ing its in - crease of light:  
preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:  
days; or - der our ways in your peace:

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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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.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



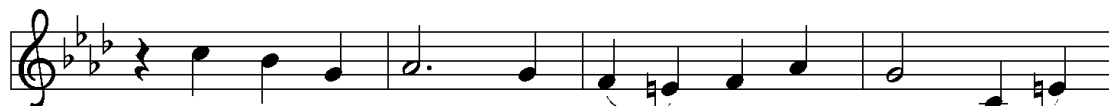
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



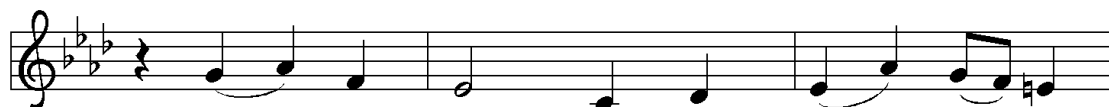
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

*Please be seated*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

A reading from Acts.

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

[Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."



<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.

**📌 Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 93

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.

The LORD has made the world so sure that it can- | not be moved.

<sup>2</sup>**Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established; you are from | everlasting.**

<sup>3</sup>The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted | up their voice; the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.

<sup>4</sup>**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea, mightier is the LORD who | dwells on high.**

<sup>5</sup>Your testimonies are | very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and for- | evermore.

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

*The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.*

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

**☞ Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

## GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

- P** The holy gospel according to Luke.
- G** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.

**🎵 Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

*Please stand as you are able*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 832, My Lord of Light**

1 My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wis - dom you have spo - ken;  
 2 My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sin - ner's death en - dur - ing:  
 3 My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high as - cend - ed:  
 4 My Lord of lords, one Trin - i - ty, to your pure name be giv - en

but those who heard your wise com - mands your ho - ly law have bro - ken.  
 for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life se - cur - ing.  
 your burn - ing love is now re - leased, our days of fear are end - ed.  
 all glo - ry now and ev - er - more, all praise in earth and heav - en.

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938  
 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925  
 Text © 1980 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## THE NICENE CREED

**P** With the whole Christian Church on earth, let us confess our faith.

**C** **We believe in one God, 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P** United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

***After each portion of the prayers:***

**P** Hear us, O God.

**G** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**G** **Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**G** **And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

## MUSICAL OFFERING

***Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace***  
Mary McDonald

*Please stand as you are able*

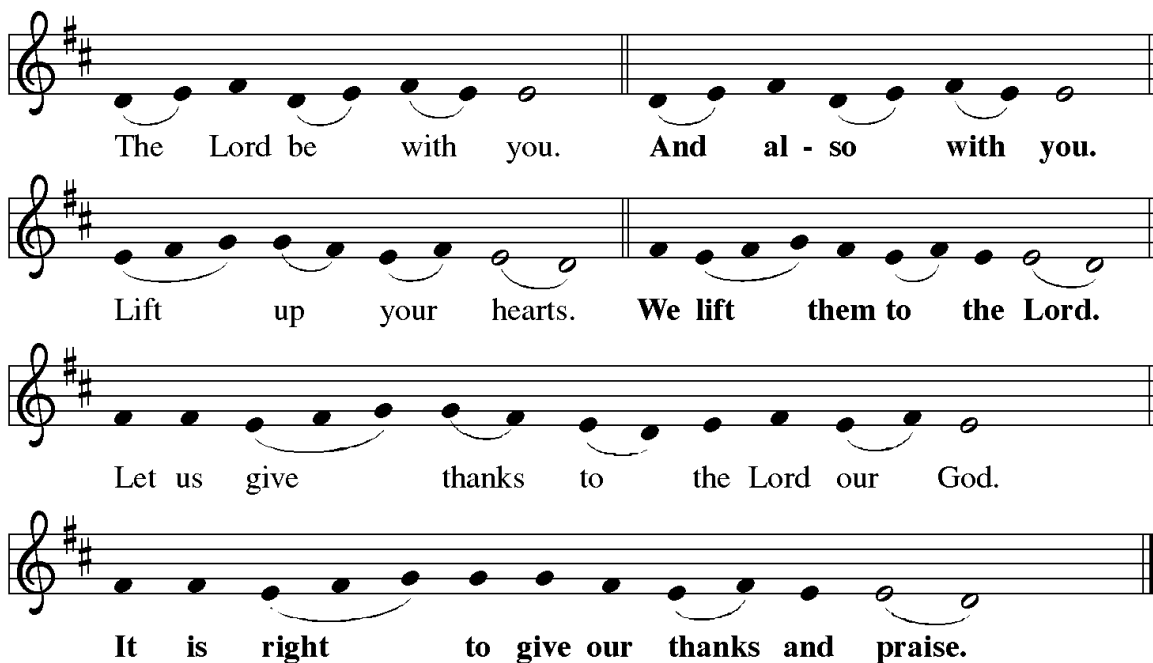
## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

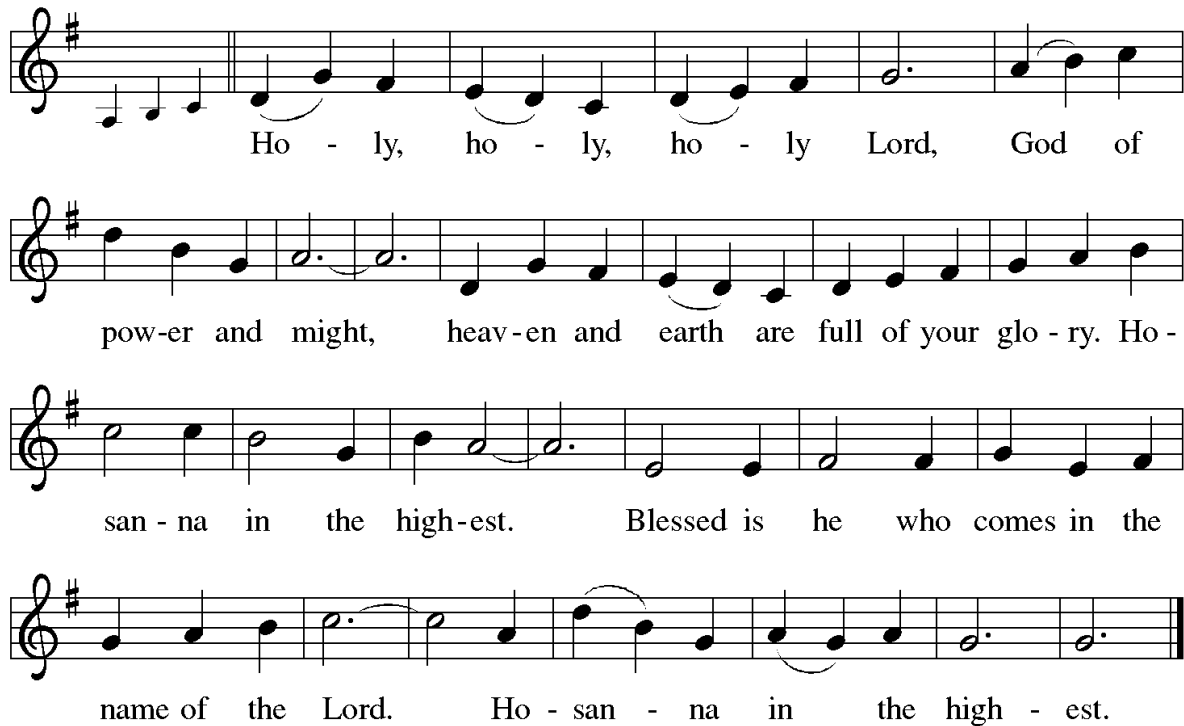
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P** Holy, living, and loving God,  
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.  
We give you thanks for Jesus  
who, living among us,  
healed the sick, fed the hungry,  
and with a love stronger than death,  
gave his life for others.  
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.  
Remembering, therefore,  
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world.  
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**☩** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**☩ 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.**

*Please be seated*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

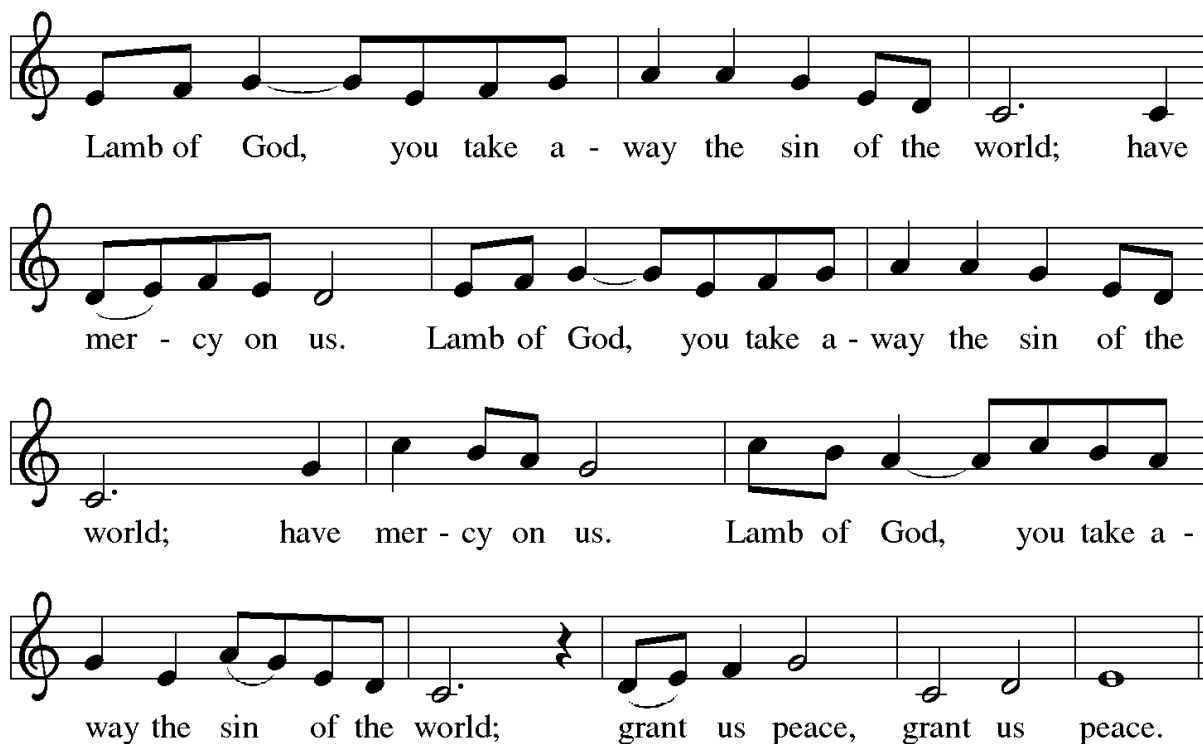
**P** Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION

**P** The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**C** Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 838, *Beautiful Savior*

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

*Please stand as you are able*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**G** Amen.

*Please be seated*

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able*

## BLESSING

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING SONG **ELW 579, Lord, You Give the Great Commission**

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

**P** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

### ***Festival Finale***

Malcolm Archer

## TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Presiding Minister: Rev. James Aalgaard  
Organist: Judy Olson  
Lector: Kristen Thorstenson  
Tech: Chad DuLac

*Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Gloria Foster.*

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**Grace Lutheran Church**  
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## **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

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