

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

AUGUST 24, 2025

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes, TX 78570**

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**Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com**

Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor

956.463.1305

eweber10@aol.com

Sunday

9:00 A.M.

Worship Service

10:30 A.M.

**Adult Bible Class/
Sunday School**

Holy Communion:

Every Sunday

**[www.facebook.com/
lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)**

Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs., M-F

8 am to 12 pm

ETERNAL LIFE



*And He said to
them, "Strive to enter
through the narrow
gate, for many, I say to
you, will seek to enter
and will not be able.*

Luke 13:24

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 24, 2025

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32).

Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - O Lord, You call me to be faithful and to heed Your fatherly discipline. Preserve me by Your perpetual mercy, guide me in ways of peace and love, keep me from all things hurtful, and lead me to all things profitable to my salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - To be the “favorite child” in a family is often a source of competition and sometimes a source for comedy. Years ago, a pair of sibling entertainers, the Smothers Brothers, made their family relationship a staple of their onstage humor when Tom, the older brother, would remind Dickie, the younger, “Mom always did like you best.” As we gather with God’s people at worship week by week, we can be certain that our gracious God values all of us and is pleased to see us grow in grace year by year. The psalmist wrote that “the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor” (Psalm 84:11). In the same Psalm 84 is the verse where the psalmist exclaims to God, “For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere” (v. 10). There is nothing better than for God’s favorite people, which we are, to be gathered in a most favorite place—which this is! It doesn’t get any better than that!

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

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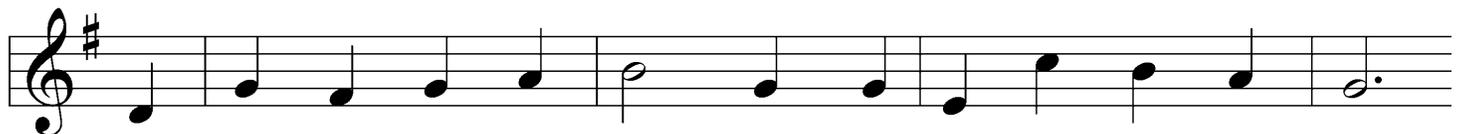
PRELUDE *(a quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)*

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915



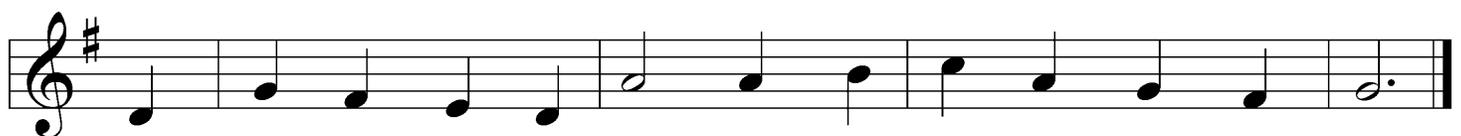
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,

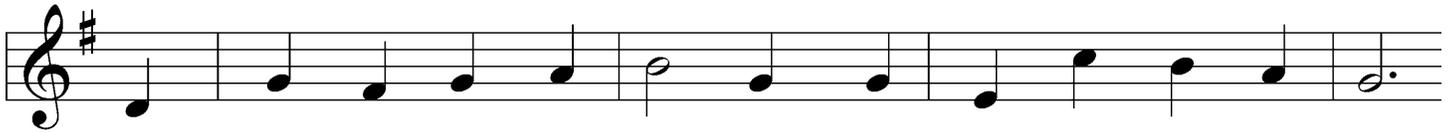


Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.

(Continue on next page)



2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C₄ **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and**

KYRIE

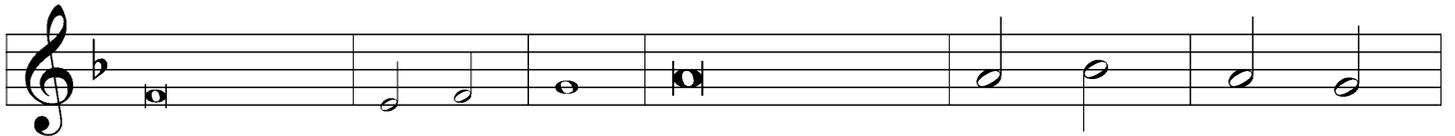


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

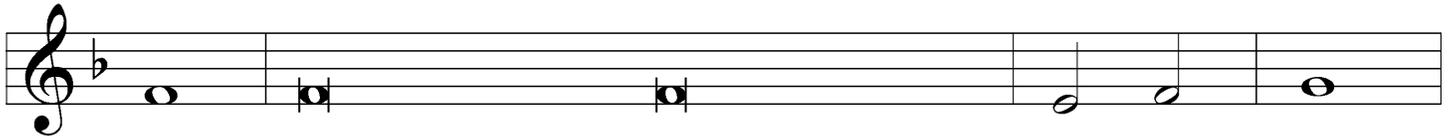


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

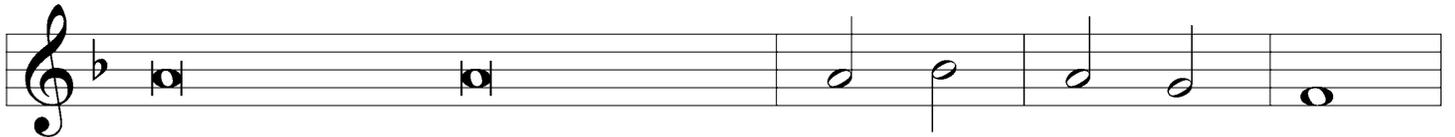
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



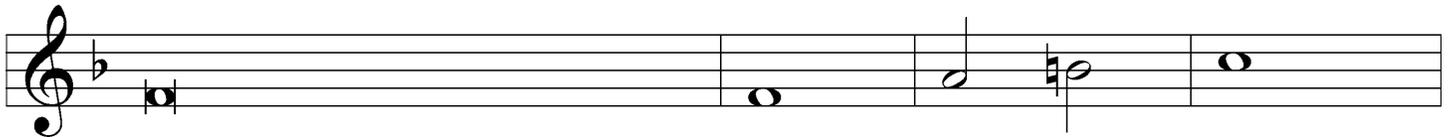
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



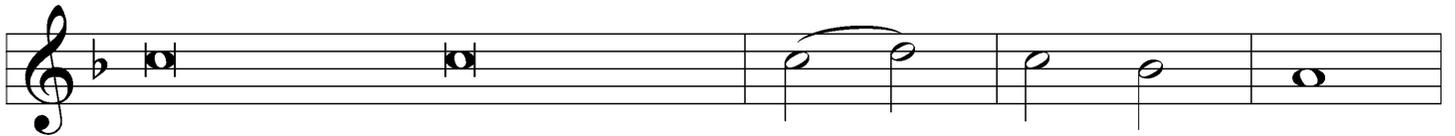
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



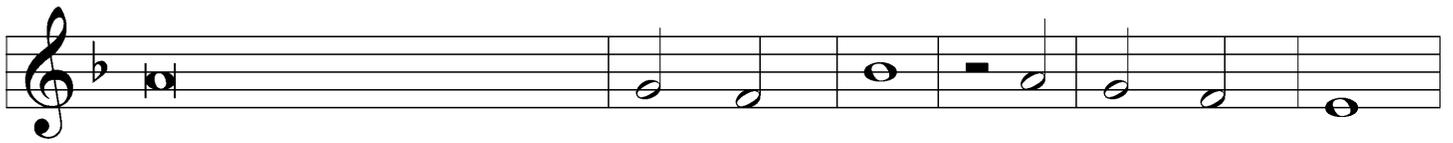
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



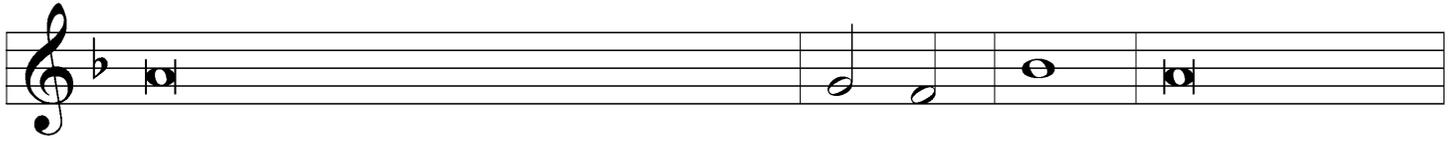
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



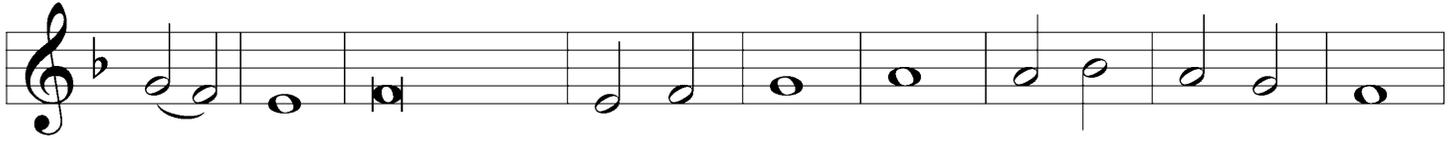
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



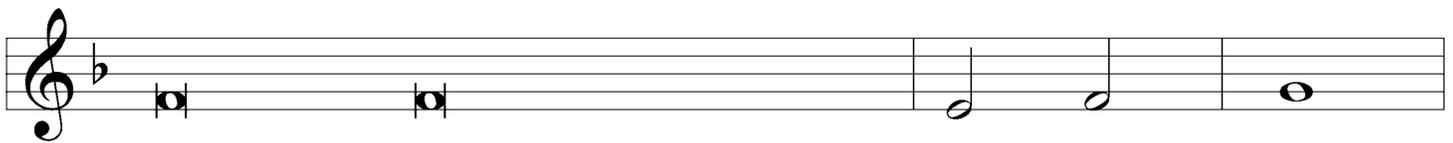
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



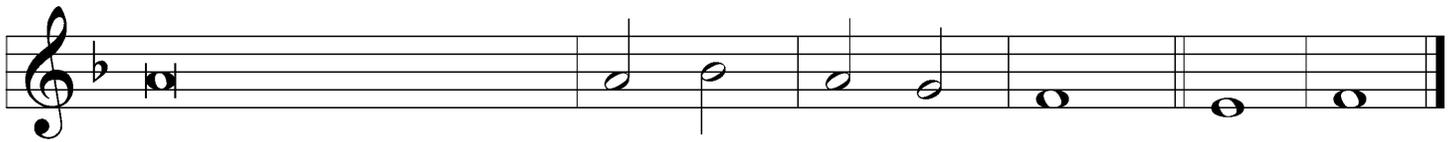
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

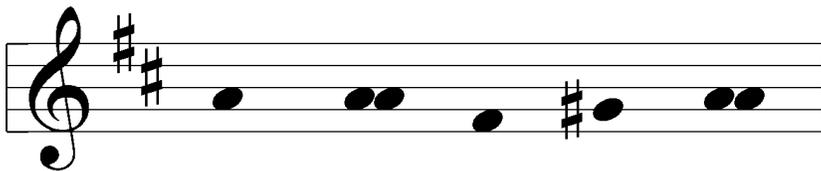


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

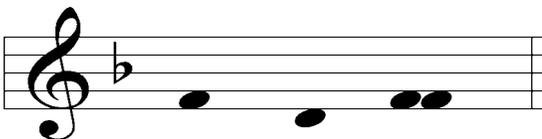
SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



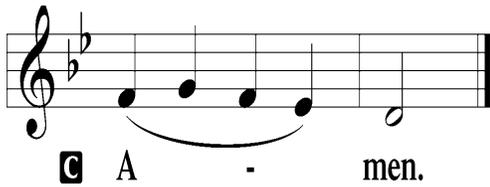
C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 66:18–23*

(The glory of the Lord shall be declared.)

18 “For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory. 19 I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations: to Tarshish and Pul and Lud, who draw the bow, and Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off who have not heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. 20 Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the Lord out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says the Lord, “as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord. 21 And I will also take some of them for priests and Levites,” says the Lord.

22 “For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,” says the Lord, “so shall your descendants and your name remain.

23 And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me,” says the Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 50:1–15*

P The Mighty One, God the Lord, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down.

C Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth.

P Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him.

C He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He

may judge His people:

P “Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

C Let the heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is Judge.

P “Hear, O My people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you; I am God, your God!

C I will not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, which are continually before Me.

P I will not take a bull from your house, nor goats out of your folds.

C For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

P I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

C “If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world is Mine, and all its fullness.

P Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

C Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.

P Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

EPISTLE *Hebrews 12:4–29*

(An exhortation to faithful, peaceful living.)

4 You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. 5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.”

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they indeed for a few

(Continue on next page) ⁹

days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. 11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; 16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. 17 For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

18 For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them any more. 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.")

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, 26 whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." 27 Now this, "Yet once more,"

indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. 29 For our God is a consuming fire.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 13:22-30*

(Jesus shares insights into His kingdom that is to come.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

22 And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?"

And He said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' 26 then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' 27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity,' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. 29 They will come from the east and the west,

(Continue on next page) ¹¹



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,
 home on high, Christ, the truth that frees the cap - tive,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good
 Christ, the life that can - not die. Me - di - a - tor



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of
 to the Fa - ther, Sac - ri - fice and great High Priest: Lead us



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.
 to Your heav'n - ly man - sions, There to share Your wed - ding feast.

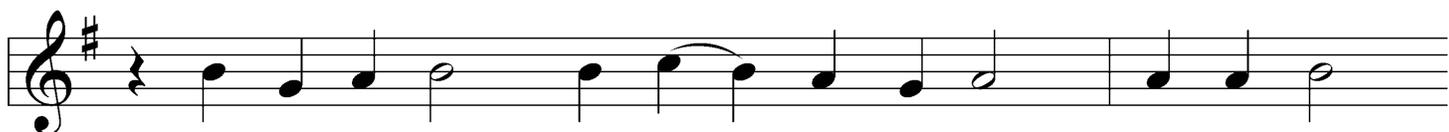
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SERMON “An advantage not to be taken lightly” Luke 13:29-30

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY *Create in Me* **LSB 956**

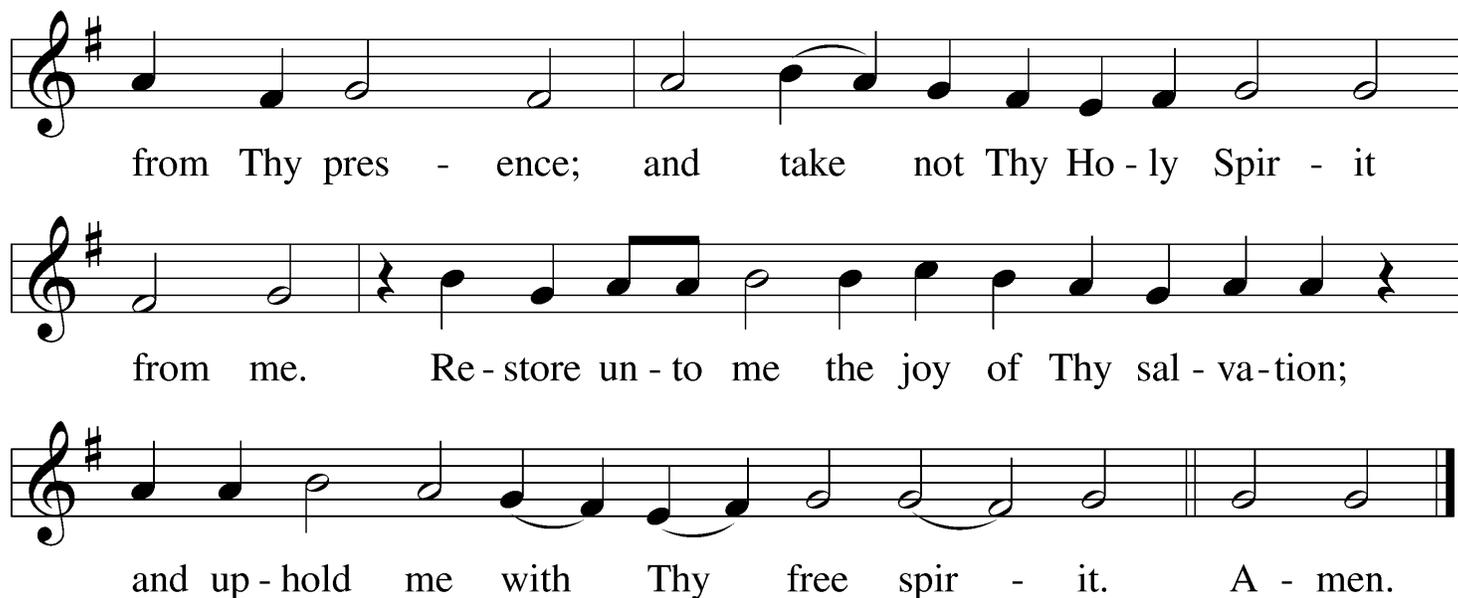


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new



a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way

(Continue on next page) 13



from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
 and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

SHARING OF THE PEACE *"Peace be with you"* [American Sign Language]

Reception of new members by profession of faith- Charles and Laurie Brown

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs. Lord in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the whole church throughout the world that, as people united in faith and active in love, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus. We pray for all nations of the earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule there may be times of peace and reconciliation, and we pray for our own nation that it may be an ensign of hope.

We bring our special petitions today to God's throne of grace as we pray for our families, thanking God for the blessings that are received from caring parents, grandparents, public service and emergency workers, and caregivers who intersect with our lives. We thank God, our heavenly Father, for listening to our petitions and responding to them—Lord in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

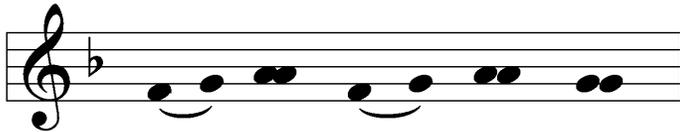
P We pray for the varied situations of daily life in which we are placed, especially in our workplaces and neighborhoods, that we may be peace bringers in all our actions and words.

We pray for the special needs of this day, remembering those who are ill and those who mourn, and for all those matters on our hearts currently, [including . . .]. For all those saints who have completed their earthly journeys in faith and have left us a legacy of love, we thank You, Lord, and faithfully commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

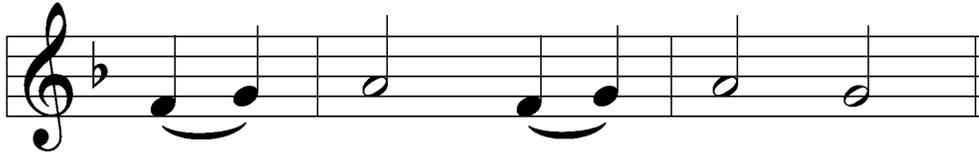
C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE



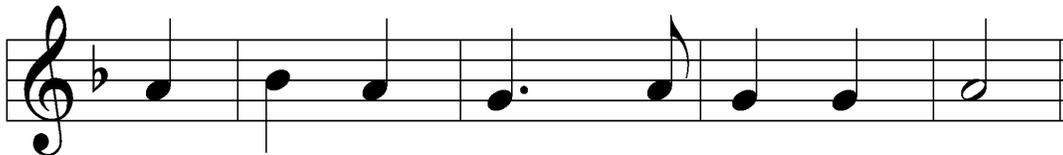
P The Lord be with you.



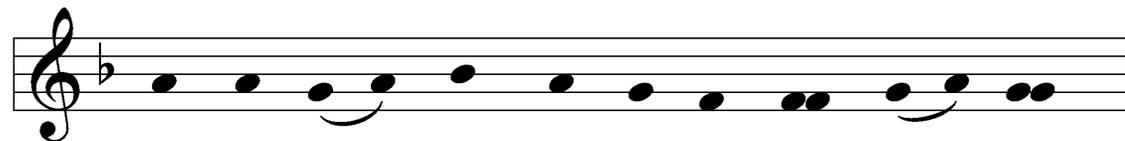
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, Lord our God. Holy are You

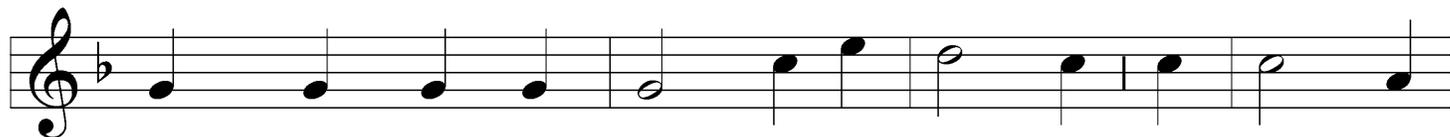
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and great is the majesty of Your glory. You have shown us Your favor by sending Your only Son to be our Redeemer. By His sacrificial life and atoning death, He has brought us salvation and has shown us the path to life eternal. Pour upon us now the gift of the Holy Spirit that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord with true devotion. Grant us a foretaste of the feast to come, heavenly Father, that we may joyfully and hopefully await a blessed eternity in Your glorious presence.

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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



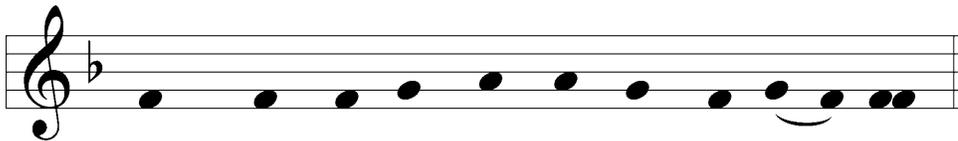
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

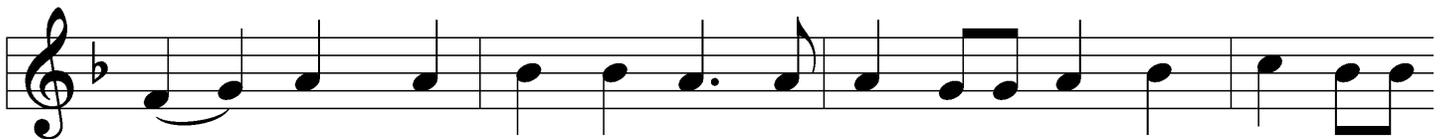


☐ The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

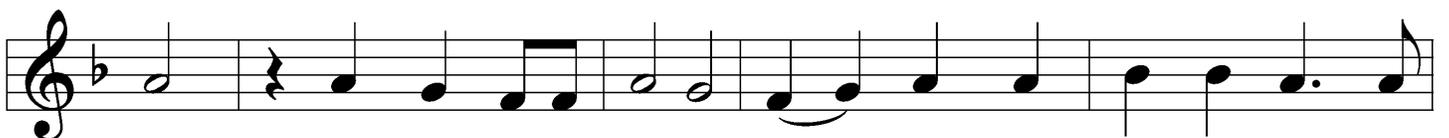


☐ A - men.

AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
(Continue on next page) 17

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please sit

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Lord, We Praise Thee

LSB 617

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
 2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor

In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
 Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
 That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



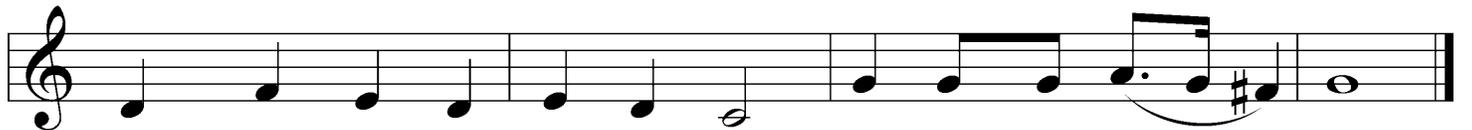
they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

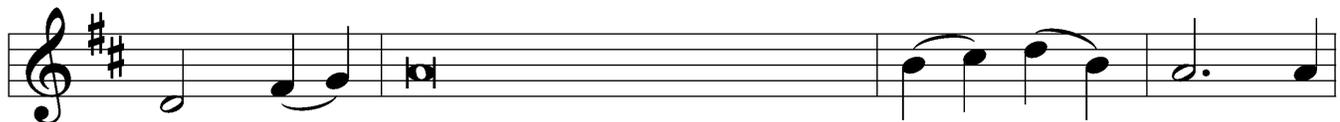


In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

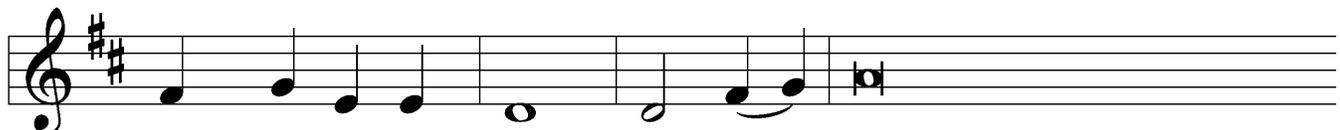
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Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

(Continue on next page)



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

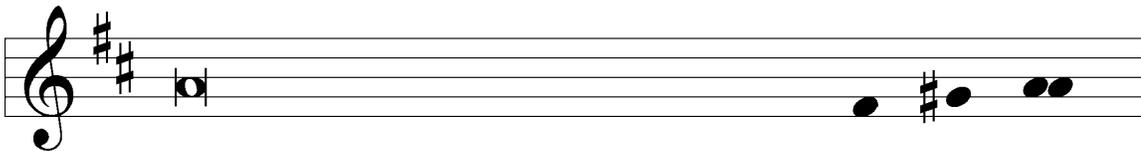


to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

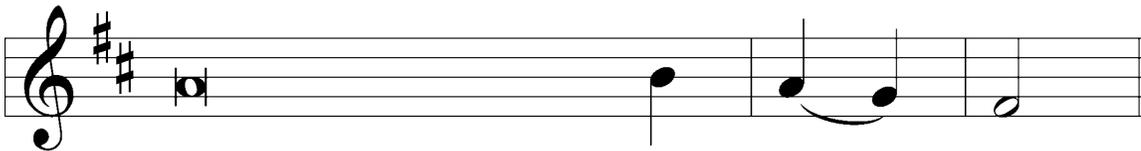


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. We bless You, O Lord, for the grace and favor You continually show us. Grant that Your Son's body and blood, which You have given us to eat and to drink, may abide in us; and let no stain of sin remain in us, whom this pure and Holy Sacrament has refreshed; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C A - men.

BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

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

His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Please sit

SENDING HYMN

You Are the Way; through You Alone

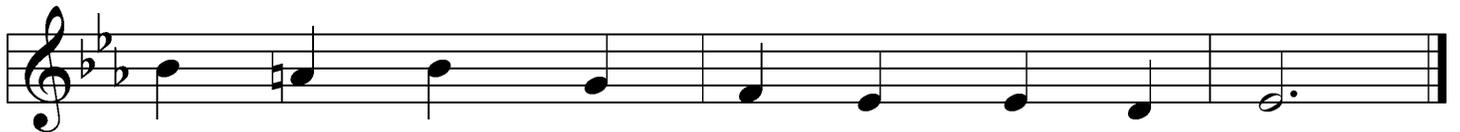
LSB 526



1	You	are	the	way;	through	You	a - lone	Can
2	You	are	the	truth;	Your	Word	a - lone	True
3	You	are	the	life;	the	emp - ty	tomb	Pro -
4	You	are	the	way,	the	truth,	the	life; Grant



we	the	Fa - ther	find;	In	You,	O	Christ,	has
wis - dom	can	im - part;	You	on - ly	can	in -		
claims	Your	con - qu'ring	arm,	And	those	who	put	their
us	that	way	to	know,	That	truth	to	keep, that



God	re - vealed	His	heart	and	will	and	mind.
form	the	mind	And	pu - ri - fy	the	heart.	
trust	in	You	Not	death	nor	hell	shall
life	to	win	Whose	joys	e - ter - nal	flow.	

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portals of Prayer for July to September 2025 are available in the Narthex or office.

Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Rev. Weber is leading the class.



to our newest church members, Chuck and Laurie Brown.

August Activities

- > Family Confirmation Class - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > Adult Confirmation Class - Fridays at 12 noon.

Sermon Notes

*Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him, bless His name.
Psalm 100:4*

8/17/2025	
Sunday Worship	56
Plate:	\$ 339.00
Envelopes:	\$ 2,863.00
Envelopes-Other: Sch	\$ 1,000.00
Donation:	
On Line	
Memorial:	
Total:	\$ 4,202.00
Bible Class:	35 \$ 6.00
	<p>TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 17)</p> <p>Proverbs 25:2-10 Psalm 131 Hebrews 13:1-17 Luke 14:1-14</p>

