Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023 – 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion, Setting One, Lutheran Service Book

Prayer before worship:

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we come before you this day thankful for your glorious resurrection. Scatter doubt and uncertainty, and confirm our faith and trust in you. Come into our midst this day with your life-giving presence and bestow upon us your saving peace. Amen.

+ + +

Prelude

"Short Voluntary" (John Worgan)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross made be made in remembrance of Baptism

- ▶ In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **G** But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

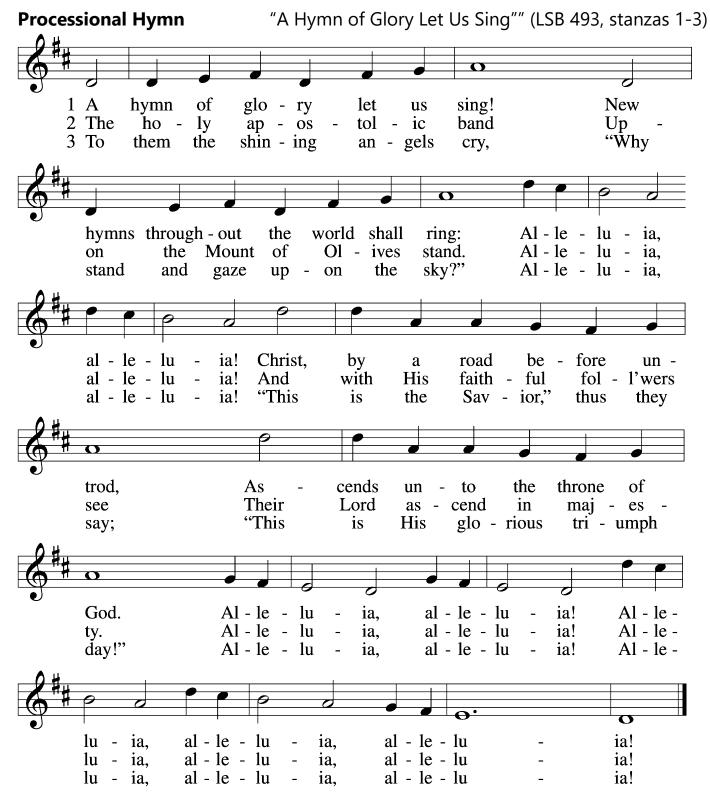
Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- ☑ Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



Almighty God, in his mercy, has given His Son to die for you and, for His sake, forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



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Greeting

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

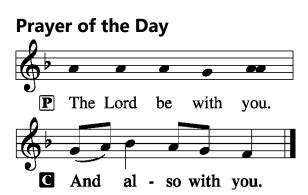
G He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

G And also with you.







P Let us pray:

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶"Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰"For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

"'May his camp become desolate,

and let there be no one to dwell in it';

and

"'Let another take his office.'

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day

Acts:1:12-26

when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 68:1-10

- L God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him!
- As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!
- L But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!
- Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him!
- **L** Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.
- God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
- L O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,
- C the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel.
- L Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished;
- your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11

Epistle

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And

"If the righteous is scarcely saved,

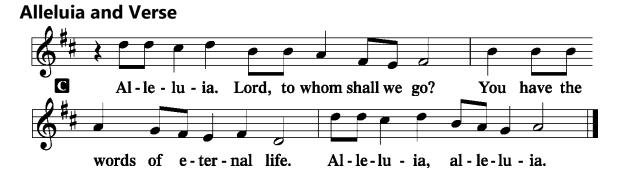
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

¹⁹Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good [...].

^{5:6}Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.



¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

⁶"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one."



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Baptismal Song	"Once Le	ed to Your Font" <i>(sta</i>	nzas 1 and 2)
 Once led to your Ad - dressed by your Both wel-comed and By your wash - ing made 	fed at your	die and to live tight and set free, ta - ble of grace, feed - ing made whole;	called re - your by your
	P P. P		
sup - per brings life and	for wash - ing, em - brac - ing, sal - va - tion. and a - ble;	O God, lead us O God, lead us O God, lead us O God, lead us	out to out, and out to out to
		P. P. J.	0
serve and to give, ser speak by our deeds, ser nou - rish and cheer, ser make your world ring wit	at forth with your wat forth from your	bath for the liv word for the na - meal for cre - a - bath, word, and ta	- ing. - tions. - tion. - ble.
Once Led to Your Font: A Keyboard Collection, Mark Sedio, ISBN 0-8006-7785-4 Published by Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.			

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2005

Holy Baptism today is given for Eva Grey Schillero, child of Jonathan and Stephanie Schillero. Serving as her sponsors are Kimberly Galarza and Stephen Schillero.

Presentation of Baptismal Candidate

R We present Eva Grey to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The Address

The pastor speaks to those assembled for Baptism

- In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?
- R I do.

The Thanksgiving

The pastor pours the water to be used for Holy Baptism into the font

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Flood Prayer

This prayer, written by Martin Luther, acknowledges God's saving acts throughout history by means of water.

- Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.
- **G** By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.
- In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the slavery to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life.
- G He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the +→ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.
- **C** To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

The Renunciation

Candidates for Baptism and sponsors join together in renouncing the works of Satan.

- I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?
- R I do.

The Profession of FaithCandidates for Baptism, their sponsors, and the
congregation join together in affirming their belief in the triune God.

- **P** Do you believe in God the Father?
- **G** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- **P** Do you believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ?
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- **P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- ☑ 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.

The Washing

The pastor baptizes the candidate(s) with these words:

Eva Grey, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Laying on of Hands

The pastor lays hands on the head of the baptized and prays for the Holy Spirit's work in their life:

- God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy Sacrament. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Eva Grey: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.
- **C** Amen.

The Sealing

The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized with oil prepared for this purpose. As the sign of the cross is made, the pastor says:

- Eva Grey, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
- **C** Amen.

A lighted candle is given to the baptized with these words:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Finally, let us pray for the parents of this child: O God, giver of all life, look with kindness upon Eva's parents, Jonathan and Stephanie. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally the salvation you have given to them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Welcome

Those who have been baptized turn and face the congregation as these words are spoken:

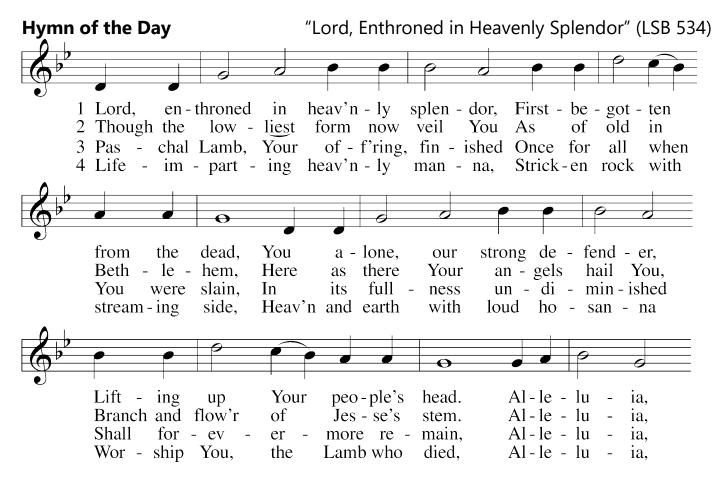
- **I** Through Baptism, God has made this child a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear His creative and redeeming Word to all the world.
- We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

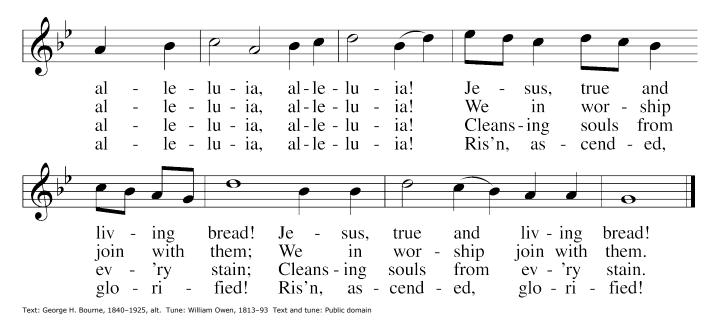
"Once Led to Your Font" (stanzas 3 and 4)

Sermon

Response

"Please Hold"





Reception of New Members

The congregational companions of those desiring to become members present them to the pastor at the altar. As each candidate is named, they are invited to step forward to the altar rail.

Dear friends in Christ, the members of our congregation are glad that you are to become part of our Christian fellowship here at St. John's. As a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, you are to be an active participant in the ministry that we share, a servant with us in the kingdom of God by His grace. In response to God's full and free gift of forgiveness and new life through His Son, I exhort you to attend corporate worship as a member of the body of Christ, make diligent use of the means of grace, and lead a righteous and godly life. Support the work of that the Lord gives us as His people in this congregation with your prayers, your time, and your resources, both material and intangible. Walk with us at St. John's as a forgiven people who are gathered around the cross, formed and fueled by God's grace, and go out into the world to invite all people to a life transformed by Jesus Christ. This is the fellowship that we share, the community into which you are about to be received as members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

In response to God's word in the Scriptures and enabled by the Holy Spirit, we now ask you

to speak your covenant commitment to living out the fellowship that we share:

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (*Hebrews* 10:24-25)

- I will strive to GATHER often with this community of faith through regular participation in corporate worship life and fellowship with other members of the body of Christ.
- **C** For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them. (*Romans 12:4-6a*)
- Recognizing that Christ will **DISCIPLE** me through God's gifts of Word and Sacrament, I will strive to walk with our Lord through prayer and the practice of spiritual disciplines, growing in faith, engaged in regular reading and study of the Scriptures, individually and with fellow Christians.
- **G** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (*Matthew 6:21*)

I will strive to MANAGE all the resources God has given me, tangible and intangible – in response to all that God in Christ has done for me – and offer my time, talents, and treasure in service at St. John's and in the world, committing to serving in at least one ministry of the church.

- **C** Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! (*Psalm 105:1-2*)
- I will strive to INVITE others to a relationship with Jesus Christ through my words and actions with the help of the Holy Spirit. I will pray for wisdom to recognize witness opportunities and for boldness to share my faith.
- **P** Is this, then, your sincere desire and intention?
- **R** Yes, with the help of God.
- Members of St. John's Lutheran Church: you have heard the promise made this day by these people who have declared their desire to walk with us on their journey of faith. What is your response?
- We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

Prayers of the People

P Rejoicing with all the witnesses of the resurrection, let us pray in confidence for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.

During the season of Easter each petition ends with the phrase: "Hear us, O God." Please respond by saying: **"Your mercy is great."**

The prayers end with the words:

In resurrection hope we commend to you all for whom we pray, trusting in the promise of new life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Farewell and Godspeed

Today we bid farewell and pray God's blessings upon Janine Flannery are relocating to Georgia.

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L 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. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

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."

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."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



Distribution of Holy Communion

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

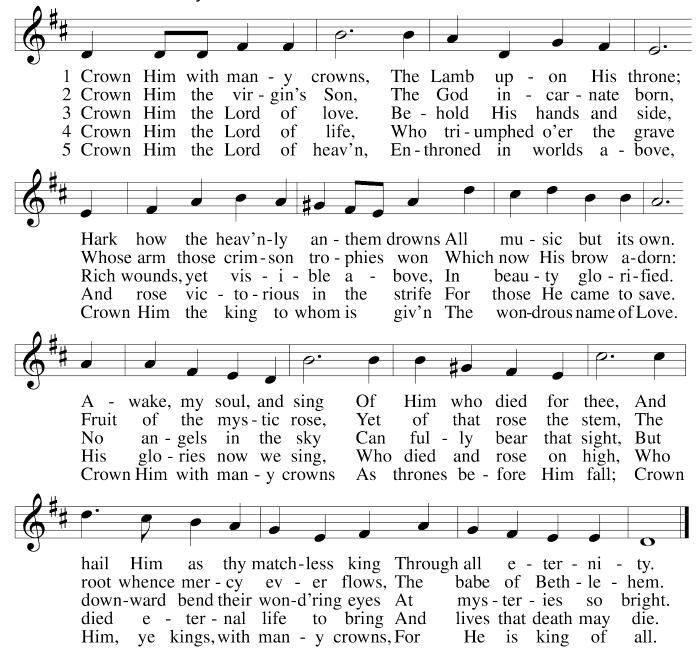
For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at Distribution

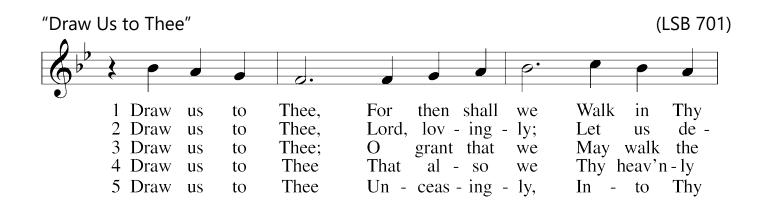
Distribution Anthem "A Psalm of Blessing" (John D. Horman) Choir of St. John's Bless the Lord, O my soul! Let the earth with a song of praise rejoice! Bless the Lord, O my soul, with my heart and mind and voice! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Lift a song to the heavens above. Bless the Lord, O my soul and fill my heart with love. God, who made this earth and all who dwell within. Guide us through each day, and safely keep our souls from sin.

(Distribution Hymns continue on the next page)

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"



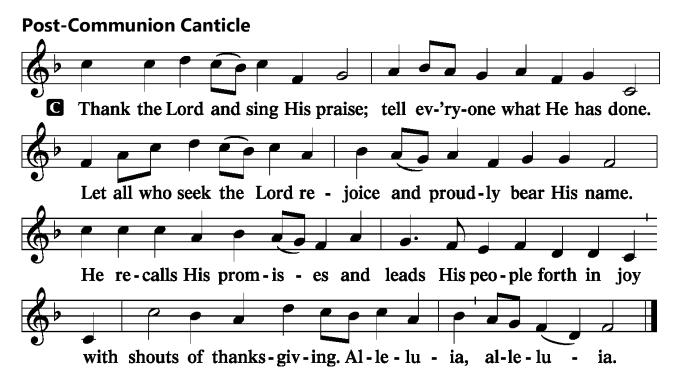
Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93ext and tune: Public domain





Text: Friedrich Funcke, 1642–99; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal



Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

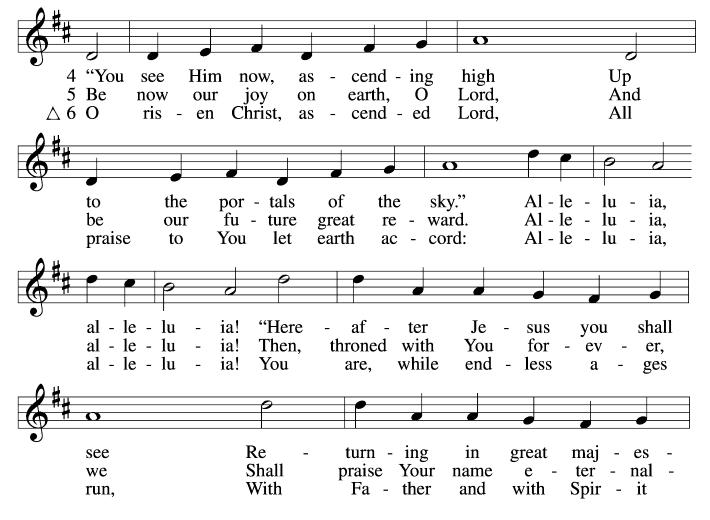
Benediction

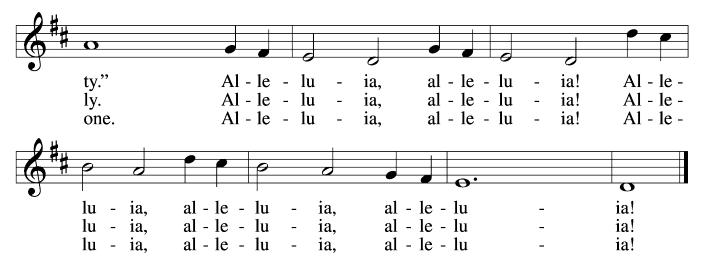
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and
→ give you peace.

C Amen.

Recessional Hymn

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" (LSB 493, stanzas 4-6)





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Postlude

"Toccata from 'Suite Gothique' Op. 25" (L Boellmann)

+ + +

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Danny Jessee
Communion Lay Assistant	Jennifer Hills
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Jenna Swale
Crucifer	Michael Swale
Ushers	Joe Godwin
	Rodney Smith
Altar Care	Cathy Long
AV Operator	Scott Budzien
	Mark Gilbertson
Welcome Host	Denise Canter
Nursery	Janet Smith

+ + +

This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by donations to the flower fund.

+ + +

To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*, scan this QR Code



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