

*So therefore,  
none of you can become my disciple  
if you do not give up all your possessions.*

Luke 14:33

## INTRODUCTION

*Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.*

## WELCOME

Welcome in the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who welcomes people of every race, culture, sexual/affectional orientation, and gender identity.

If you're new here, we are glad to see you.

If you've been away for a while, we're glad you are back.

If you attend regularly, we are glad you're here too.

If you're joining us on YouTube,

especially our new friends from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Salem, we appreciate your presence too.

In Holy Communion, Christ's table is open to all.

During the distribution, individuals may choose to receive gluten-free wafers and/or grape juice.

We welcome you into our midst; you are a blessing to us.

*Please see an Usher for directions to a gender neutral restroom.*



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Chickasaw, Illini, Ioway, Kickapoo, Osage, Otoe-Missouria, and Quapaw peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

### **Cover Art**

*Cover Design (Year C, 2022): Judi Klingsick (1948-2024)*

*Clip Art: Sundays & Seasons*



In the Holy Communion, the Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. Jesus invites all the faithful to join him at his table. In this Sacrament, God offers forgiveness of sins, strengthening of faith and the promise of eternal life. Unity Lutheran Church welcomes all Christians to receive our Lord's Body and Blood, to share in the Holy Communion with us.

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*  
*Holy Communion*  
*Setting TEN*



10:30 AM

**Gathering**

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

Welcome – Debbie Neustadt

Prelude: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” –setting by John Carter  
with Tom Winter, violin

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,**

**things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,  
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*All Creation Sings, Hymn 1000 “God’s Work, Our Hands” (See facing page)*

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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# God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,  
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,  
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,  
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,  
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,  
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,  
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,  
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,  
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,  
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.  
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.  
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.  
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,  
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,  
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.



## GREETING

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

## KYRIE

*The assembly echos the leader; first in Spanish, then repeated in English.*

Leader



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

Leader All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.  
Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Direct us, O Lord God,  
in all our doings with your continual help,  
that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name;  
and finally, by your mercy,  
bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## Word

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

### **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said to the people:]

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity,  
death and adversity.

<sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God  
that I am commanding you today,  
by loving the Lord your God, walking in the Lord’s ways,  
and observing God’s commandments, decrees, and ordinances,  
then you shall live and become numerous,  
and the Lord your God will bless you  
in the land that you are entering to possess.

<sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear  
but are led astray to bow down to other deities and serve them,

<sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish;  
you shall not live long in the land  
that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

<sup>19</sup>“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today  
that I have set before you life and death,  
blessings and curses.

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live,

<sup>20</sup>loving the Lord your God,  
obeying the Lord, and holding fast to your God,  
for that means life to you and length of days,  
so that you may live in the land  
that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors,  
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

*The reading concludes:*

Word of God, word of life.

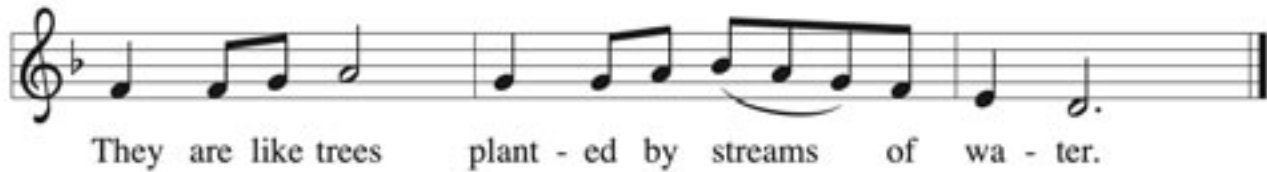
**Thanks be to God.**



## PSALMODY: Psalm 1

*The cantor/choir sings the refrain, then the assembly repeats it.*

### *Refrain*



*The assembly joins the cantor/choir in singing the **boldface** verses.*

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,**  
**and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. Refrain**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that | do not wither;  
everything they | do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup> **It is not so | with the wicked;**  
**they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> **For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,**  
**but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed. Refrain**

## SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

A reading from Philemon.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup>to our sister Apphia,  
to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers,  
<sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints  
and your faith toward the Lord Jesus.

<sup>6</sup>I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective  
as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ.

<sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love,  
because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ  
to command you to do the right thing,

<sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—  
and I, Paul, do this as an old man  
and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

<sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus,  
whose father I have become during my imprisonment.

<sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you,  
but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.

<sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.

<sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me  
so that he might minister to me in your place  
during my imprisonment for the gospel,

<sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent  
in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

<sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason Onesimus was separated from you for a while,  
so that you might have him back for the long term,

<sup>16</sup>no longer as an enslaved person but more than a slave,  
a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you,  
both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner,  
welcome Onesimus as you would welcome me.

<sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me.

<sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it.

I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

<sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord!

Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you,  
knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

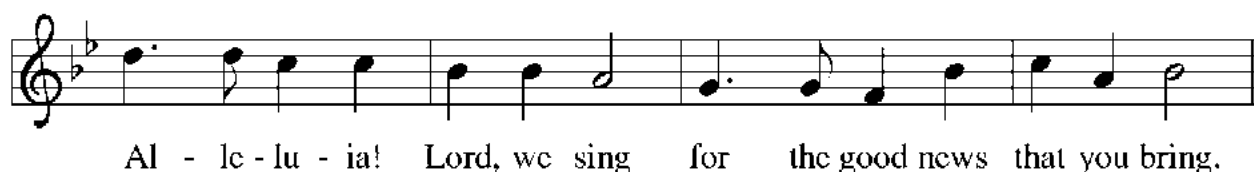
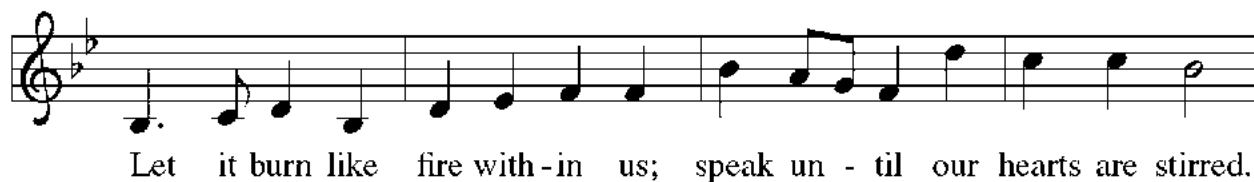
*The reading concludes:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly welcomes the gospel.*



*The cantor/choir sings the verse—a setting of Psalm 119:135.*

Let your face shine up- | on your servant,\*  
and teach | me your statutes.

*All repeat the acclamation.*

## GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus,]  
and he turned and said to them,

<sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother,  
spouse and children, siblings, yes, and even life itself,  
cannot be my disciple.

<sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower,  
does not first sit down and estimate the cost,  
to see whether there is enough to complete it?

<sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when a foundation has been laid  
and the builder is not able to finish the building,  
all who see it will begin to ridicule the builder, <sup>30</sup>saying,  
‘This person began to build and was not able to finish.’

<sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king,  
will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand  
to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?

<sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then while the other is still far away,  
he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.

<sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple  
if you do not give up all your possessions.”

*The gospel is concluded.*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

*The assembly proclaims the word of God in song.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*ELW, Hymn 798 “Will You Come and Follow Me” (See facing page)*

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

## APOSTLES CREED

*God's word is further proclaimed as we confess our faith with the whole church.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*An assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer.*

Gathered into God's embrace, let us lift our voices on behalf of a weary and wounded world.

*A brief silence.*

God of love, send us out filled with your love and life. Be known in our daily living, that your love may be known through our proclamation. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

God of creation, remind us to be good stewards of your diverse and beautiful world. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**



God of peace, fill the hearts of those who rule, govern and lead. Give them and us compassion to guide the peoples of this world in the ways of truth, justice, equity and peace. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

God of healing, visit those who yearn for your wholeness, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now (*names and needs added as desired*). Encourage all those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and perseverance to all who work in health care professions. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

God of service, give us strength and humility. In our service to those near and far, whose needs are visible or invisible, may we find you in the faces of our neighbors. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

For what else do we pray?  
*A time is provided for individuals to offer an intercession.*  
God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

Everlasting God, support us in this life. As we remember those who have gone before as examples of faithful living and honor those whose faith was known only to you, inspire us to follow their example of baptismal life until we join with them in worship. God, we pray,  
**open our hands in love.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers.*  
Into your wounded hands of love, O God, we place all our prayers,  
trusting in your mercy through the crucified and risen one Jesus.  
**Amen.**

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*  
In Christ we have been reconciled to God,  
let us now be reconciled with one another.  
The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

# Meal

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## OFFERTORY

Choir: "I Can Do All Things through God" –Valerie Shields

*A setting of Philippians 4:12-13*

I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty.

I have learned the secret of being content in all times of plenty and need.

I can do all things through God who strengthens me.

*The assembly stands.*

## SETTING THE TABLE

*Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward as the hymn is sung.*

ELW, Hymn 479

## We Come to the Hungry Feast



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

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## OFFERING PRAYER

*An assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

Creator God,  
**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good  
and the harvest is plentiful.  
Strengthen us at your table  
with these gifts of the earth and our labor,  
that we may work for the good of all;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

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.**

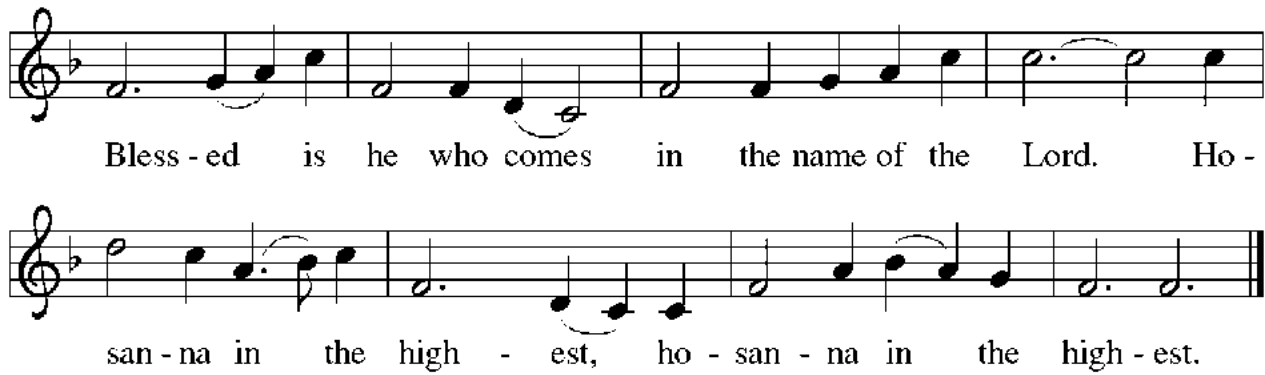
*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season:*

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

## SANCTUS

*The assembly joins the thanksgiving.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*The presiding minister continues:*

Holy God,  
you alone are holy,  
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars;  
beneath the sea;  
within each cell;  
with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water;  
by night and day;  
across the wilderness;  
out of exile;  
into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;  
near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

## *Words of Institution.*

Remembering his love for us  
on the way,  
at the table,  
and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

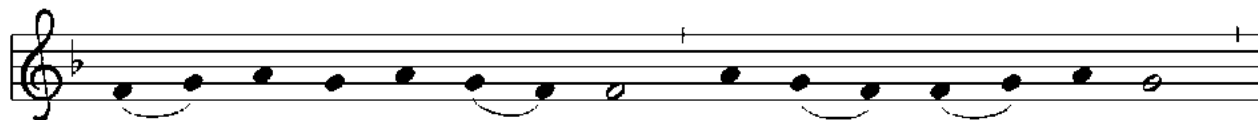
Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.



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

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray:*



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we

for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al

and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,

and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly is seated for the distribution. In the distribution, individuals may choose to receive gluten-free wafers and alcohol-free juice (purple in color).*



*The assembly sings as the bread is broken.*

## **LAMB OF GOD**



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*Assembly song during the communion.*

*ELW, Hymn 810*

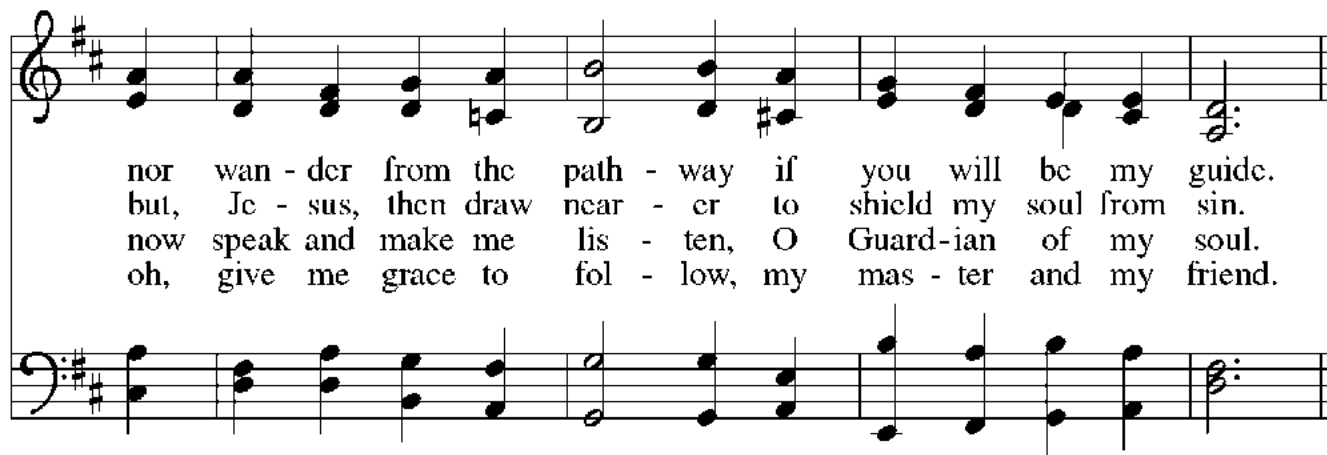
## O Jesus, I Have Promised

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the hymn. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, the second system contains the next four lines, and the third system contains the final four lines. The piano part consists of chords and single notes that follow the harmonic structure of the vocal parts.

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.  
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

*Assembly song during the communion.*

*All Creation Sings, Hymn 1024 “Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand/Kwake Yesu nasimama” (See following page)*

Approximate pronunciation of the Swahili:

**kwah-kay yay-zoo nah-see-mah-mah**

**(n)dee-yay (m)wahm-bah nee sah-lah-mah**

## Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

*Refrain (repeated) —first in Swahili, then English.*

Kwa - ke    Ye - su    na - si - ma - ma,    ndi - ye  
Here on    Je - sus    Christ    I will    stand.    He's the

mwam - ba    ni    sa - la - ma.    Ndi - ye    mwam - ba    ni    sa - la -  
sol - id    rock    of my    life.    He's the    sol - id    rock    of my

ma,    ndi - ye    mwam - ba    ni    sa - la - ma.  
life.    He's the    sol - id    rock    of my    life.

1 There's no oth - er place I can hide till the  
2 It is not the work of my hands that has  
3 When my days on this earth are done, and I

storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God from the  
washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my  
stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have an - y

*Refrain*

flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.  
days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.  
fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966  
 Music: KWAKE YESU NASIMAMA, Kenyan melody; adapt. Greg Scheer  
 Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik  
 English adapt. and arr. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik  
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## TABLE BLESSING

*The presiding minister may say a table blessing. All respond “Amen.”*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*When all have communed, the assisting minister continues:*

Let us pray.

Mothering God,  
 you gathered us to your table  
 and we drank deeply of your grace.  
 Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves  
 and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

# Sending

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

SENDING HYMN

*ELW, Hymn 808*

## Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

*Jésus, je voudrais te chanter*

*A cantor introduces the hymn, singing the French stanza.*

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,





Text: Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931  
 Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community  
 Text and music ©1987 Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
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## AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

*The presiding minister addresses those affirming Christian vocation.*

Siblings in Christ, both our work and our rest are in God.

Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ,  
 in gratitude to God and in service to others,  
 at morning and evening,  
 at work and at play,  
 all the days of your life?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Let us pray: Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit us your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon us in our commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

We are called to proclaim the good news:

**God is at work!**

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

**God is at work in the world today!**

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work.  
When we offer a helping hand, God is praised.  
When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.  
**God is at work in us!**

In our service today and in our daily lives,  
let us live out what God has called us to in baptism.  
**God is at work through our hands!**

## **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

God who sets forth the law of love,  
Jesus who fulfills the law for you,  
and the Spirit through whom you are called to love,  
+ bless you this day,  
that you may be God's hands and heart and voice  
at work in the world.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

*Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world, then the assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

**Thanks be to God.**

*Individuals may exit during the postlude music and may stop at the font to receive a blessing of hands for ministry.*

*Signing a cross on the backs of the hands:*

God bless your hands and your work,

*Signing a cross on the palms of the hands:*

that through you God's love may be known.

**Amen.**

Postlude: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" –setting by John Carter  
with Tom Winter, violin

+ + +



**A light luncheon is served in the Fellowship Hall (lower level).**

God's Work Our Hands activities follow.

**TODAY** – Participants from Living Christ, Shepherd of the Hills, Unity, and Zion join together in acts of service. The activities on site are the following:

Preparing **Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief** (upper level fellowship room)

Preparing **Blessing Bags** (hygiene care kits)

Preparing **To-Go Meal Bags** (upper level education room)

Preparing/sorting **Children's Clothing** for distribution through God's Helping Hand

Additional opportunity for service off site:

**Playing Bingo with residents** (Oak Knoll Senior Living in Ferguson)

### **Coffee with Pastor Kristen –**

In an effort to create an opportunity for conversation with Unity members, Pastor Kristen invites any who are interested to join her for coffee and conversation at Christine's Coffee (8406 Natural Bridge Rd. 63121) next **Tuesday, September 16**, any time from **10:30-12:00**. Stop by when you can, and leave when you need. Coffee is optional!

**Congratulations to Blake Duncan**, who has been appointed as the new oboe instructor at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. In addition to teaching, he will also be playing in various chamber ensembles.

**The Word and Witness Committee will be collecting Diapers, Wipes, and Period Supplies for the St. Louis Diaper Bank.** Please leave your donations on the table in the Narthex. We will be collecting through September. Thank you for your generosity. (Debbie Neustadt)

### **September Birthdays**

Jack Krone	September 17
Steve Webb	September 27
Leah Harris	September 28
Jerry Arana	September 30

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For the grieving

the family of Geraldine Brown (Dan Lilienkamp's neighbor)

For restored health and healing (recent concerns)

Kenneth Hutchinson (Janis Hutchison's nephew)

Ongoing prayer concerns

Dennis Bean

Sean Johnson and family

Carol Schmidt

Barb Dilly

Evelyn Williams

Susie Shevitz

Alice Vlietstra

Danny Payne

Emily Booker

Franny LeVeigne

Charlie and Liz Duncan

Renard Smoots

Lisa Reeves

Mark Schuler

Deborah Asberry-Chua

Dan Lilienkamp

Christine Kamprath

Kathy Fangmann

Janis Hutchinson

Sharon Repp

Rachel Wolf

Gwen Harris-Hall

Jackie Green

Peter Schneider

Beth Sommers Klingsick

Eliza Metcalf

Ron Neustadt

Karen Hubbard

Aquilla Tinglin

Joel Grumm

Nancy Grumm

Mark Steitz

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

**Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654**

Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.

**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

**John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407**

John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

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Church Office: (314) 382-4241  
email: unitybelnor@gmail.com  
Website: www.unitybelnor-elca.org



### Service Participants

The people of God at Zion, Shepherd of the Hills, Living Christ, and Unity together with:

<i>Presiding Minister</i>	The Rev. Kristen E. Koch
<i>Preaching Minister</i>	The Rev. Matt Schlake-Kruse
<i>Music Ministers</i>	Barbara Klingsick & S. Blake Duncan
<i>Choral Minister</i>	Nicolas Bashaw
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Leah O'Brien
<i>Crucifer</i>	Mark Fedde
<i>Lectors</i>	Stacey Miller, Zion Laurie Brown, Living Christ
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	The Rev. Matt Schlake-Kruse, Zion Richard Schademann, Zion Julie Hutson, Shepherd of the Hills
<i>Instrumentalist</i>	Tom Winter, violin
<i>Cantor</i>	Steve Webb, tenor
<i>Welcome</i>	Debbie Neustadt
<i>Greeter/Usher</i>	Barb Hohl
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Barb Hohl & Steve Webb
<i>Breadbaker</i>	Christine Kamprath
<i>Audio Production</i>	Pat Ligon
<i>Video Production</i>	Steve Reise
<i>Counters</i>	Kate Ligon & Debbie Neustadt

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# THIS WEEK AT UNITY

September 7, 2025

**Sunday 10:30a Holy Communion – Lectionary 23**  
*Time of fellowship follows the service*  
**God's Work Our Hands luncheon and activities**

**Tuesday 7:00p Council meets via Zoom**

**Thursday 7:00p Parish choir – All are welcome**  
6:30-8:30p Slideshow

**Sunday 10:30a Holy Communion – Lectionary 24**  
*Time of fellowship follows the service*  
3:30-6:30p Studio Recital – Pavel Ilyshov (nave)

## **Unity Senior Center**

*Monday – Friday 9:00a – 4:00p*

## **Lutheran Family & Children's Services**

*Monday – Friday (daily hours vary)*

## **Office Hours**

**The Rev. Kristen E. Koch, Pastor**

*Tuesday 9:00a - 2:00p*

*Thursday 9:00a - 2:00p*

**Mark Steketee, Office Administrator**

*Monday 9:00a - 2:00p*

*Tuesday 9:00a - 2:00p*

*Wednesday 9:00a - 2:00p*

*Thursday 9:00a - 2:00p*



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America