

# Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

## February 5, 2023 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

***Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life***

69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144

info@clcathens.org • [www.clcathens.org](http://www.clcathens.org)

Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

### **WELCOME (PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)**

*Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness.**

**Our hearts have turned away from you.**

**For the sake of the world you so love,  
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another  
for the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare."

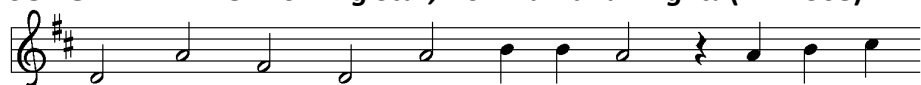
God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

## *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright! (ELW 308)*



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!<br/>             Our joy be all with music crowned,<br/>             our voices gaily blending!<br/>             For Christ goes with us all the way—<br/>             today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!<br/>             His love is never ending!<br/>             Sing out! Ring out!<br/>             Jubilation!<br/>             Exultation!<br/>             Tell the story!<br/>             Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!</p> | <p>6 What joy to know, when life is past,<br/>             the Lord we love is first and last,<br/>             the end and the beginning!<br/>             He will one day, oh, glorious grace,<br/>             transport us to that happy place<br/>             beyond all tears and sinning!<br/>             Amen! Amen!<br/>             Come, Lord Jesus!<br/>             Crown of gladness!<br/>             We are yearning<br/>             for the day of your returning.</p> |
|--|--|

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **TIME WITH CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup>"Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

<sup>9b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,  
"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even

the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

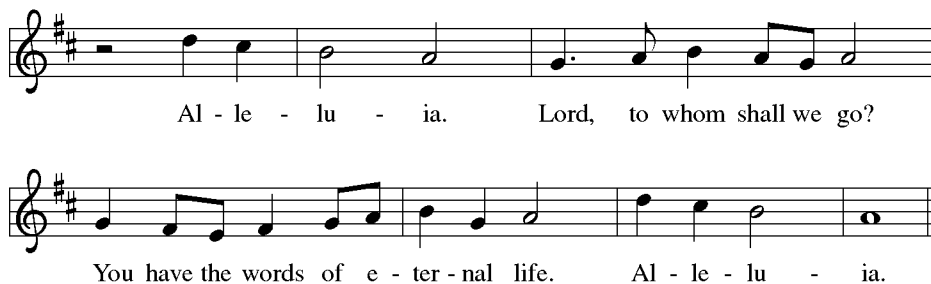
<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.]

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**



### **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY *All Who Love and Serve Your City (NEW ORLEANS) (ELW 724)*



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who  
 2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your  
 3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed  
 4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the  
 5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and  
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -  
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of  
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that  
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,  
 treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.  
 Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."  
 spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.  
 glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Text © 1969 Stainer & Bell Ltd., admin. in USA and Canada by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

For other territories © Stainer & Bell Ltd., 23 Gruneisen Road, London N3 1DZ, UK. www.stainer.co.uk. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

O God, Your Holy Spirit inspired Simeon and Anna to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. Send that same spirit to us to recognize Jesus in every person we meet, regardless of differences we perceive. Guide us to welcome you when we care for strangers, refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers, and the needy in our community. Help us to share our abundance with all in need. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Spirit, we pray for your guidance so we can truly be the salt of the earth and the light of the world through our actions, speech, and loving kindness. Help us to tell the Good News, not in lofty words or wisdom, but with demonstrations of the Spirit and the knowledge of Christ crucified, as we forgive, serve, and love others. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Jesus, we pray that your Spirit of Peace will spread throughout our broken world. Bring calm and comfort to people everywhere who live with fear, disease, and violence. Rouse us from our complacency and help us eliminate cruelty wherever it is found. Bestow courage and wisdom on all the nations' leaders to compromise and cooperate so that war, torture, and revenge will end. Protect and comfort all who serve in the military, veterans, and the families of military

personnel. We also pray for all those dealing with the effects of severe winter storms and natural disasters. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Caring Creator, we are deeply grateful for the blessings of safety, family, friends, work, food, and warm shelter. Make us your instruments to provide these necessities for others. Teach us how to be careful stewards of your amazing world, to protect everything in it, and to use its resources wisely. Empower us to recognize and use our many talents to their fullest. Bless all pastors, bishops, and lay church leaders. We also rejoice with those who are celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, and other happy occasions. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Devoted Healer, pour your healing power on all who are ill in mind, body, or spirit. We pray you will restore to wholeness those dealing with addictions and with long term diagnoses, such as depression or dementia. Bless all medical personnel and researchers with the wisdom to find cures. Grant patience, compassion, and strength to all caregivers. Bring joy and comfort to our elderly loved ones and shut-ins. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of mercy, listen now as we offer other prayers, either aloud or in our hearts..... Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Loving Comforter, we pray for all to whom death draws near and those who have lost loved ones. Bestow your peace, strength, and hope on their family and friends who mourn. Remind us all of the promise of eternal life with you. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **THRIVE! MOMENT**

### **OFFERING – THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.**

Giving is easy online through our website at <https://www.clcathens.org/give>

There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

## **OFFERTORY**

# OFFERTORY HYMN

## Rich in Blessings

1. Man - y years of faith - ful wor - ship, Rich in bless - ings from a - bove,  
 2. Here in A - thens our good ci - ty, Here we keep our wit - ness clear,  
 3. Hear our pipes and hear our voic - es As we con - tem - plate our place,  
 4. True to Lu - ther and Mel - anch - thon, Set for what the fu - ture brings,

5  
 Man - y years of deep re - flec - tion On the Gos - pel's Word of Love.  
 Here in Ap - pal a - chian foot - hills We preach Je - sus with - out fear.  
 Lis - ten while we tune our hearts to hear God's words of love and grace.  
 Hap - py in our past tra - di - tions, O - pen to our world's new things.

9  
 In our lives of will - ing ser - vice, Thanks to God who guides our way.  
 U - ni - ver - si - ty and coun - ty, This our par - ish, this our role.  
 Praise to God who, rich in bless - ings, Gives this world its glo - rious glow.  
 On - ward, up - ward, in - ward, out - ward, Je - sus guide us in our ways.

13  
 Through the tur - moil, times of strug - gle, Bring - ing us to joy to - day.  
 Our vo - ca - tion, rich in bless - ings, To reach out to one and all.  
 Peace and mer - cy, hope and glad - ness, Stay with us as on we go.  
 Rich in bless - ings, peace, and friend - ship, Make our lives true hymns of praise.

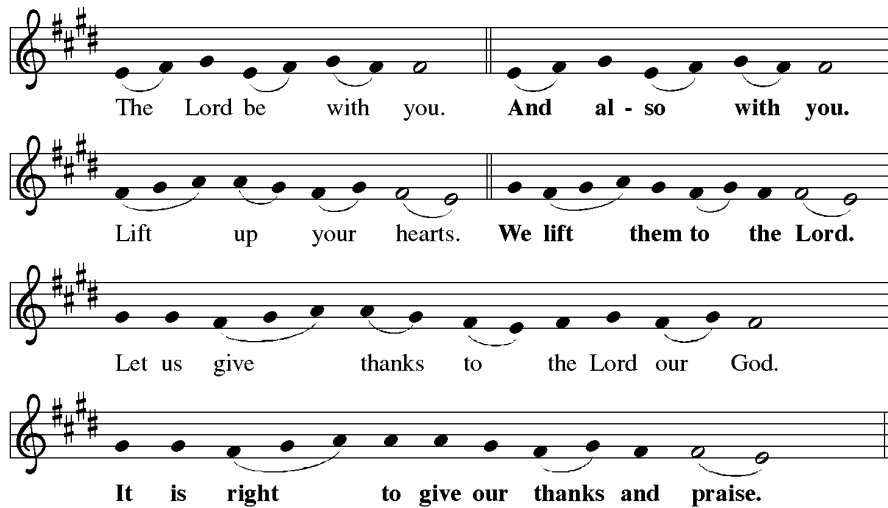
Text: Geoge Weckman, 2019  
 Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

Hymn To Joy  
 8787 D

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,  
 receive and bless these gifts we have offered.  
 Join our hearts with the song of the angels,  
 and gather us at your table of celebration.  
 Strengthen us to share with all the world  
 the abundance of your grace upon grace,  
 poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.  
**Amen.**

## DIALOGUE



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

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

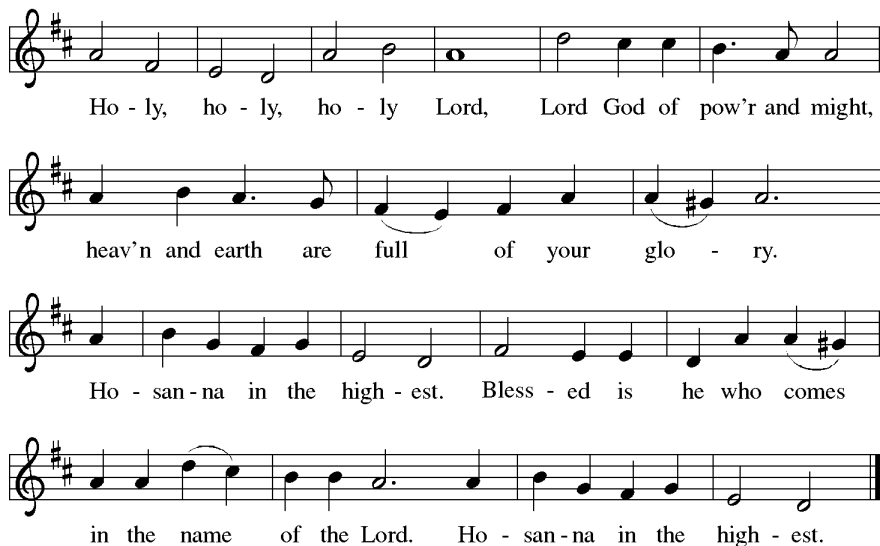
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God:  
    you are the Life and Light of all.  
By your powerful word you created all things...  
...Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
    Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
    in your holy Church,  
    both now and forever. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

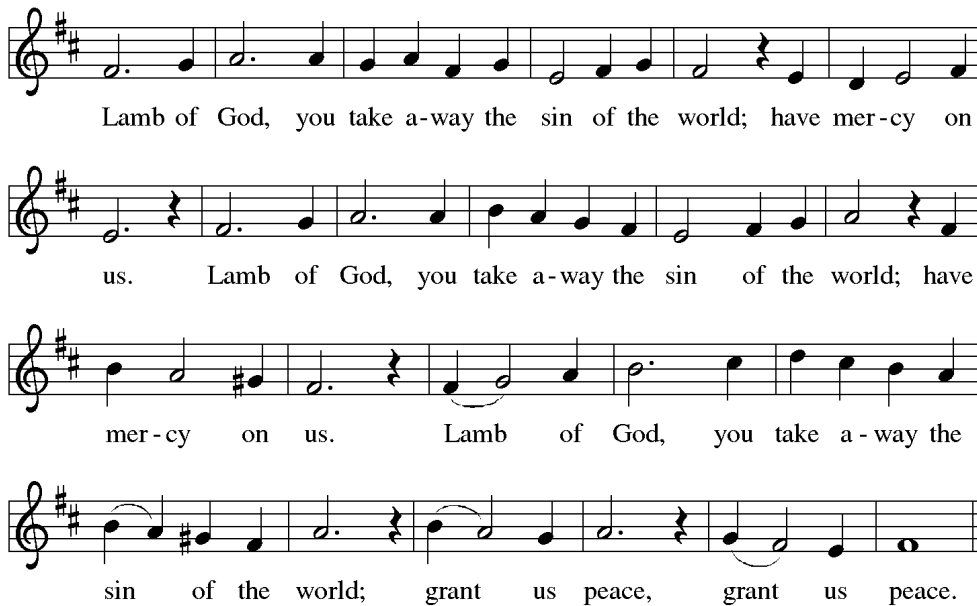
Come and taste the joy of God!

### **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **AGNUS DEI (ELW p. 154)**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,  
we thank you for the healing  
that springs forth abundantly from this table.  
Renew our strength to do justice,  
love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

### *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (ELW 545)*



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.  
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.  
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERVING TODAY:** *Presider: Chad Huebner; Preacher: Patricia Cambridge; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Stephen Chikosky; Time with Children: Lucy Crawford; Livestream: Kay Cleland; Greeter: Linda Sauer; Ushers: John Deno, Rod Sauer; Acolyte: William Crawford; Children's Church: Lucy Crawford*