

# **Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry**

## **May 14, 2023 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

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

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE "GOD OF GRACE" (WELSH TUNE) ARR. CHRISTIAN YODER BY MIXED ENSEMBLES**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

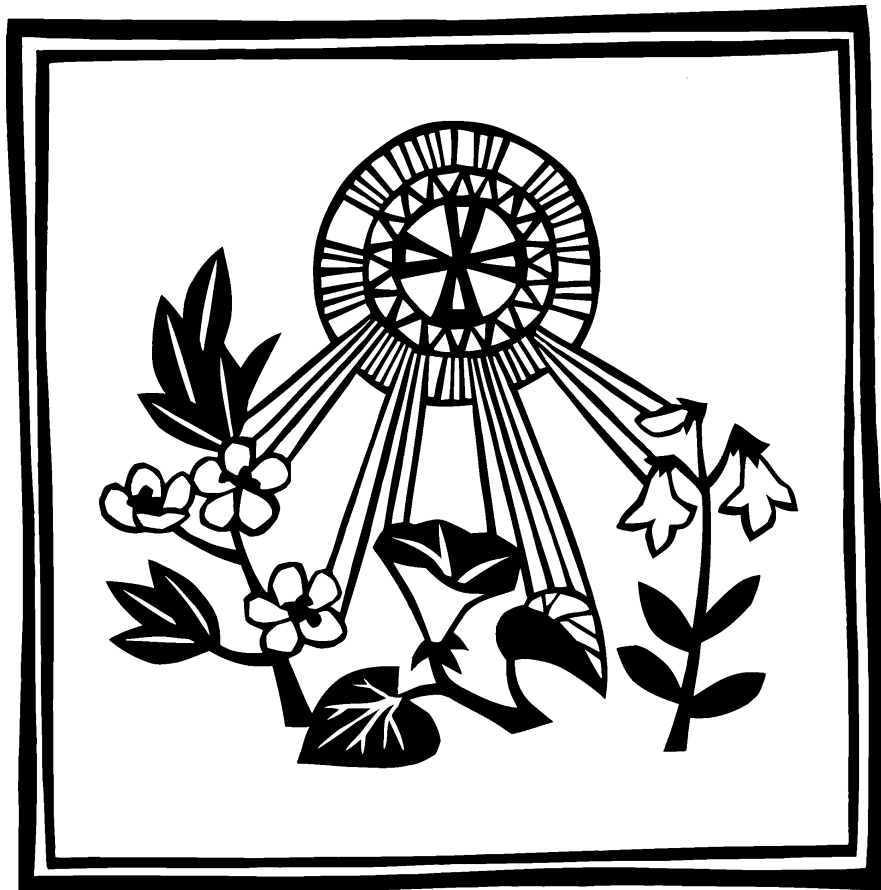
**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.  
Holy God,  
holy and merciful,  
holy and mighty,  
you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring.  
In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.  
Glory to you for oceans and lakes,

for rivers and streams.  
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.  
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**  
**Empower our witness to your resurrection.**  
**Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.  
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.  
Where despair prevails, grant hope.  
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.  
We ask this through Christ,  
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.  
**Amen.**



# GATHERING SONG

## Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (ELW 392)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea, where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **TIME WITH CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31**

A reading from Acts.

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,  
'For we too are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and

reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

#### **GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove (KOMM GOTT SCHÖPFER) (ELW 578)*



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, de - scend  
 2 To you, the Com - fort - er, we cry; to you,  
 3 In you, with grac - es sev - en - fold, we God's  
 4 Your light to ev - 'ry sense im - part, and shed



up - on us from a - bove; with grac - es man - i -  
 the gift of God most high, true fount of life, the  
 al - might - y hand be - hold; while you with tongues of  
 your love in ev - 'ry heart; your own un - fail - ing



fold re - store your crea - tures as they were be - fore.  
 fire of love, the soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.  
 fire pro - claim to all the world God's ho - ly name.  
 might sup - ply to strength - en our in - fir - mi - ty.

5 Keep far from us our cruel foe,  
 and peace from your own hand bestow;  
 upheld by you, our strength and guide,  
 no evil can our steps betide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
 and you, of both, to be but one;  
 that through the ages all along  
 your praise may be our endless song.

Text: Rhabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. composite

Music: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER, J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

O God, who made the world and everything in it,  
 we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

For skeptics and believers, for clergy high and low;  
 For those who seek God at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,  
 For all who search for life, come and listen:

**And we will tell you what our God has done for us.**

We are alive in the spirit.  
 We are saved through water.  
 Because Christ lives, we also live.  
**For we too are God's children.**

For presidents and prime ministers, for bosses and wardens;  
For those who set the course at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,  
For all who wield power, come and listen:

**And we will tell you what our God has done for us.**

We do not fear what others fear.  
We proclaim the hope that is in us.  
Because Christ lives, we also live.

**For we too are God's children.**

For friends and lovers, for neighbors and strangers,  
For those who eat bread at home, at work, in the streets,  
and in the pews,  
For all who live in the world, come and listen:

**And we will tell you what our God has done for us.**

In God, we live and move and have our being.  
From God, we have life and breath and all things.  
Because Christ lives, we also live.

**For we too are God's children.**

For the sick and troubled, for the fearful and alone,  
For those in pain at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,  
For all who suffer, come and listen:

**And we will tell you what our God has done for us.**

Our prayers are not rejected.  
Our souls are held in life.  
In truth, our God has heard us,  
and love is not withheld.  
Because Christ lives, we also live.

**For we too are God's children.**

For those kept in memory, for those long forgotten,  
For all who ever took the breath of life at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,  
For the dead and those who mourn them, come and listen:

**And we will tell you what our God has done for us.**

We are blessed by your presence.  
We are filled with the Spirit.  
Because Christ lives, we also live.

**For we too are God's children.**

God of heaven and earth, Companion in life, Spirit of truth,  
to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## GENEROSITY 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

**"Christ Lay In Death's Strong Bands" Text: Martin Luther**

**Music: Johann Walther by Mixed Ensembles.**

## OFFERING SONG



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,  
in this meal you offer your very self.



We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.  
In the breaking of this bread  
reveal to us the Risen One.  
In the pouring of this wine  
pour us out in service to the world;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

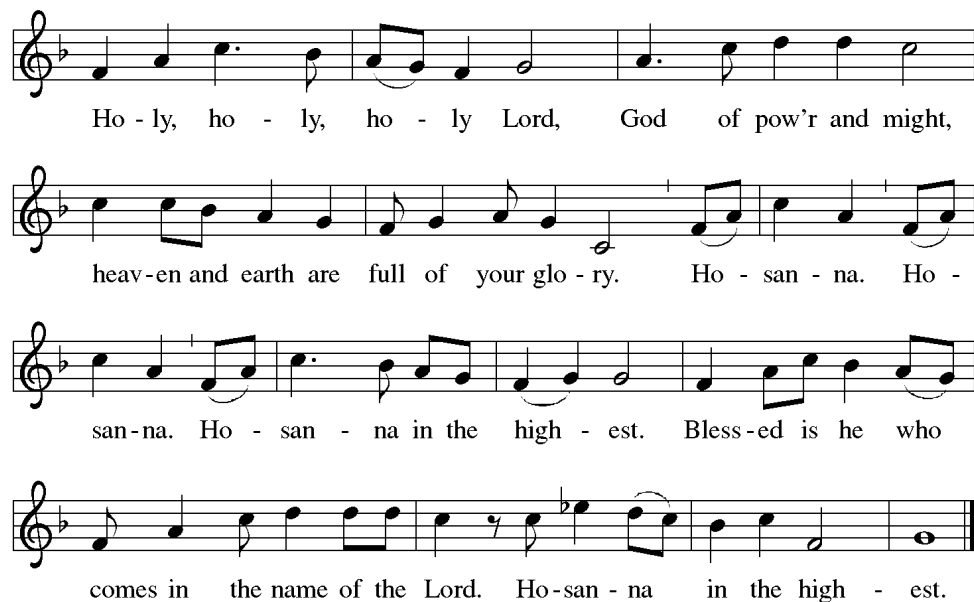
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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**

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus  
who, living among us,  
healed the sick,  
fed the hungry,  
and with a love stronger than death,  
gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**  
     **as we forgive those**  
         **who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial**  
     **and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
     **and the glory are yours,**  
     **now and forever. Amen.**

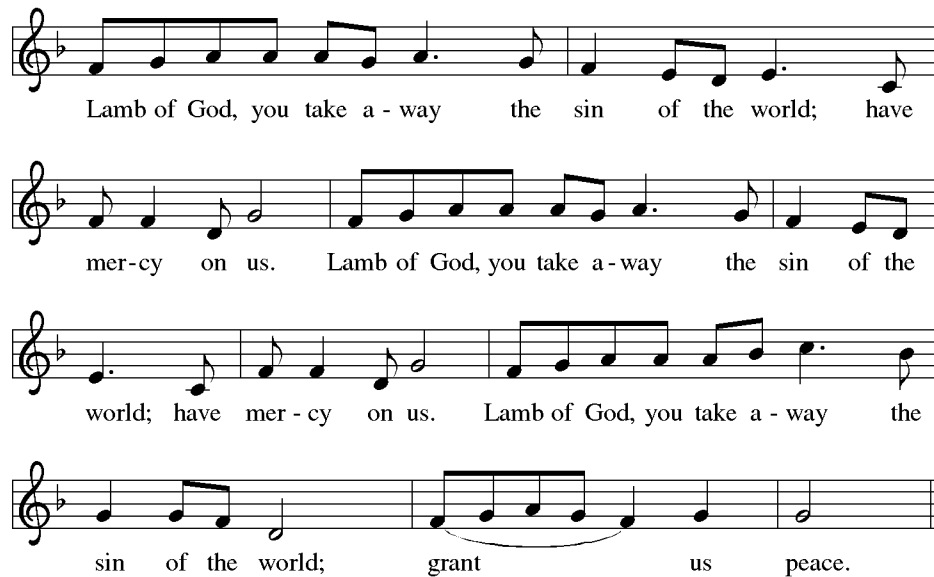
### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ,  
 broken and poured out for you.

### COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
 The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
 Amen.

### AGNUS DEI



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.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

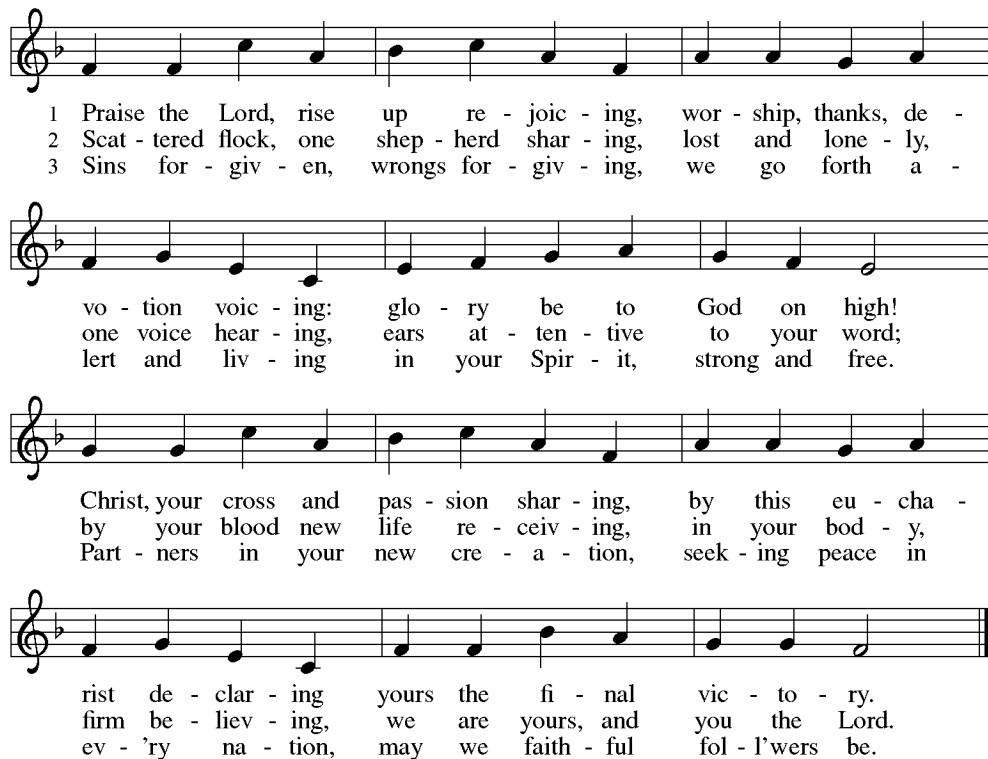
Gracious God,  
 in you we live and move and have our being.  
 With your word and this meal of grace,  
 you have nourished our life together.  
 Strengthen us to show your love  
 and serve the world in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

The God of all,  
who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG *Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing (ELW 544)*



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -  
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,  
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -

vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!  
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;  
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.

Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -  
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,  
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in

rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.  
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.  
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.  
Text © Oxford University Press.

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERVING TODAY:** *Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Preacher: Lucy Crawford; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Steve Chikosky; Livestream: Doug Debrick; Greeter: Chris Snoddy; Ushers: John Deno, Marilyn Shealy; Time with Children: Jane Unger; Acolyte: Lucy Mae Crawford; Children's Church: Kay Cleland, Melody*