



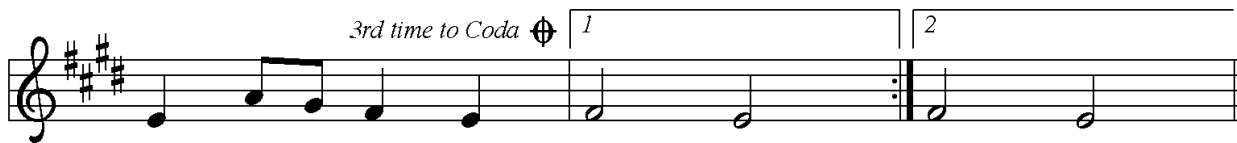
## Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

⊕ *Coda*



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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**WORD** -*The congregation may be seated.*

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

“Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

## Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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The holy gospel according to John, the 6th chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

## How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er  
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989  
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine  
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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The assembly is invited into prayer:*

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *(A brief silence)*

*After each petition, "Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**"*

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

## PEACE.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation greets one another with the words "peace be with you" or "God's peace" and a sign of peace—a wave, a handshake, a peace sign, etc.*

## MEAL

### SPECIAL MUSIC

### OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

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 presiding minister continues:*

Eternal God,

in the abundance of your love

you have caused all things to be;

from dust and spirit, you have woven our humanity;

in all our wanderings, you never cease to call us to fullness of life.

You gave us Jesus, son of Mary,

the bread of life, broken for the world;

he fed us and feasted with us;

he healed us and suffered for us;

his dying and rising have set us free

from the poverty of sin and the famine of death.

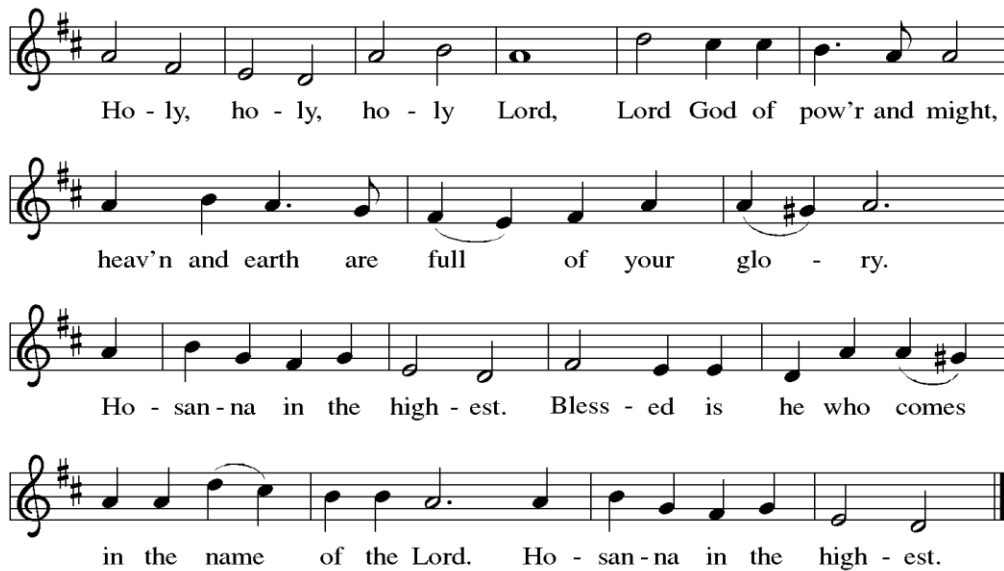
Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished, and called,

with all who hunger for your kingdom

and will not rest until all your children are fed,

with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages,

we take up the song of your praise:



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.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts,  
 that these fragile, earthly things  
 may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ;  
 who, on the night that he was betrayed,  
 gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.  
 Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:  
 “This is my body, which is given for you.  
 Do this to remember me.”  
 In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:  
 “This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
 Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”  
 As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste  
 beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, in our eating and drinking  
 we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;  
 we proclaim him as creation’s host,  
 transforming poverty into plenty  
 in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope  
 that one day death and greed will be no more  
 and people without number  
 will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 by whom and with whom and in whom  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
 all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

Hymnal # 491

## Come, Let Us Eat

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.  
Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.  
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.  
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, **+** be upon you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

SENDING SONG- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

**“Shine, Jesus, Shine”**

Hymnal #671

Refrain

**Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light!**

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me. (Refrain)
2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me. (Refrain)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We invite you to remain seated quietly for the postlude. If you exit during the postlude, please refrain from conversation until you are outside of the sanctuary. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Luther Hall immediately following the service.*

POSTLUDE

‘Lonesome Valley’, by Eugene Butler

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**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Musicians: Justin Hershey and Beth Sullivan

Lector: Diana Arney

Ushers: Jack Anderson and Sharon Phelps

*All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)*

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code.

If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!



**Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers:** The Arney family and daughter, Dawn, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Susan Kent, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Alvar Roy, Larry Serafin, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Louise Testeman, Megan Toler, Nick Torres, Kelly Van Jen. Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! **Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community.** Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support!

You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly), our online giving portal. Visit [sanmarcoslutheran.org/give](https://sanmarcoslutheran.org/give) to get started.



Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. *San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.*

**Our new website and giving platform is live!** When you visit [sanmarcoslutheran.org](https://sanmarcoslutheran.org) next, you'll notice that it looks a little different. (Thanks to council member Devin Hogan for the beautiful photography of our campus!) These changes are part of an administrative streamlining that Pastor Casey has been working on for several months, and will make it easier for visitors to find the information about us they need. If your financial support for the congregation is made online, you'll need to migrate your PayPal or Vanco transactions over to [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly), our new giving platform. Information about making that change was in the July newsletter and will be in the August newsletter as well, but you can contact Pastor Casey if you have any questions about getting set up.

**ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY** Summertime food items would be especially welcome: boxes of instant pasta salads, tuna, mayonnaise, lemonade mix. We never know what will be available from Brother Benno's and the Food Bank, but pasta of any kind, rice, dried beans, cereal, boxed milk are always welcome. We will be distributing at All Saints Episcopal Church in Vista - on the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of the month. If you'd like to help some time when we're there (10:30-12:30), please contact Doris Payne, 760-653-3026 or [dorispayne3247@gmail.com](mailto:dorispayne3247@gmail.com). It works best with six volunteers, so we like having a rotation list. Thanks for your ongoing support of this vital ministry.

### **Saturdays of Sisterhood begin September 7**

For Women. By Women. About Women. Please join Kärin Kupka on the first Saturday of the month in Luther Hall from 10-11:30 AM for Bible study, self reflection, and finding community amongst the women of the Bible and those of SMLC! Coffee and tea will be served. No need to RSVP. Questions? Email Kärin at [karinkupka533@hotmail.com](mailto:karinkupka533@hotmail.com) or call 760-415-2525.

### **A/V Volunteers Needed**

Our brand new video and sound system in the sanctuary will be installed later this month! It will be simple to operate and reliable to use. Pastor Casey needs volunteers who are willing to learn how to operate the microphones and cameras, monitor the livestream, and other specific audio/visual tasks as part of a volunteer team on Sunday mornings. There will be a training on Friday, August 23 (in the evening, exact time TBD) and on Sunday morning, August 25 (at 8:30am before worship). Please contact the church office if you are willing and able to serve God and SMLC in this way. The more people help out, the easier it will be, and the less frequently each volunteer will need to serve.

**GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS (GWOH) SUNDAY throughout the ELCA is September 8th**, and we're looking forward to a great time together! We have a handful of projects planned, including:

- assembling hygiene kits for Interfaith Community Services
- crafting birthday cards + assembling kids' Birthday Party kits for the Hawthorne shelter
- making sack lunches for Interfaith Community Services

We need your help to make these things happen! Donation lists for each project are available in the narthex. Please bring all donations by Sunday September 1st, so the Social Action Committee has time to acquire the remaining items.

On GWOH Sunday we will have a shortened worship service (still at 10am) then start our respective projects in Luther Hall. When our work is done, we'll sit down together for a POTLUCK LUNCH.

Questions about GWOH? See any member of the Social Action Committee, or contact the church office.