

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025 – 11:00am

Greetings and Welcome

GATHERING

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

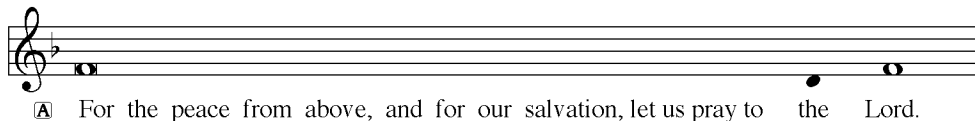
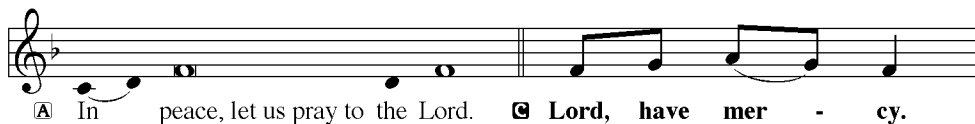
Gathering Hymn – “Shall We Gather at the River” ELW 423

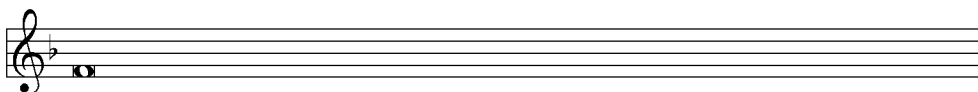
- 1 Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?**

*Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.*

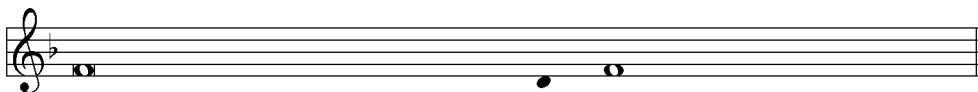
- 2 On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *Refrain***
- 3 Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain***
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Refrain***

**Kyrie*





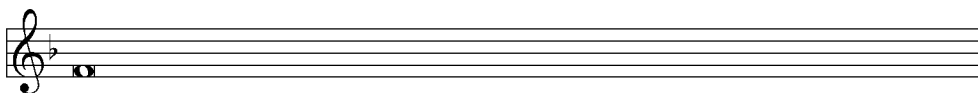
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



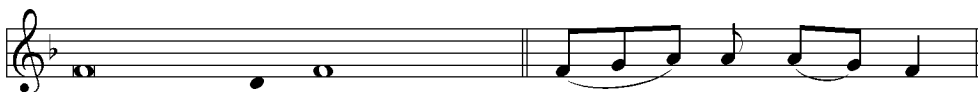
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

**Hymn of Praise*



G This is the feast of vic - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **I** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.


☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,


al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and


strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.


☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,


al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and

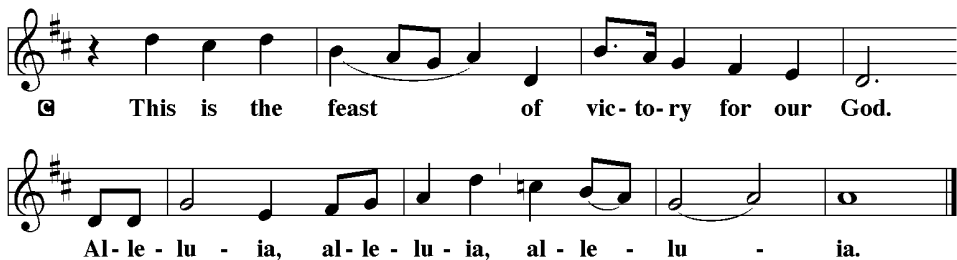

join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and


might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

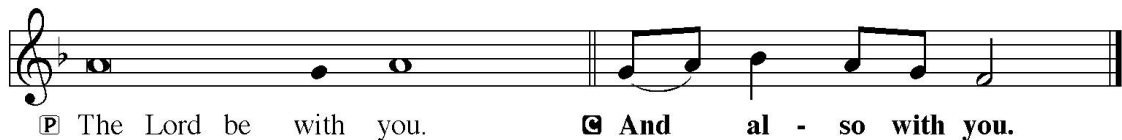

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,


al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ For the Lamb who was


slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



**Prayer of the Day*



P: Let us pray. Gracious God, you hold all people and all time in your hands. Reveal yourself to us again as the crucified and risen Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Fill us with faith and hope that we would be witnesses to your grace at work throughout all creation.

C: Amen.

WORD

Reading: Revelation 1:1-18

Reader: Terri Kimler

¹ The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place, and he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ²who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. ³Blessed is the one who reads the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸“I am the

Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

⁹I, John, your brother who share with you the persecution and the kingdom and the endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, “Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

¹²Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. ¹⁴His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire; ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last ¹⁸and the Living One. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever, and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation*

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.

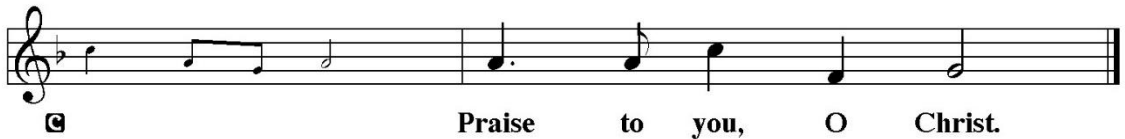
**Gospel Reading: John 8:13-19*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.



¹³Then the Pharisees said to him, “You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.” ¹⁴Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge by human standards; I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid, for it is not I alone who judge but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. ¹⁸I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.” ¹⁹Then they said to him, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.



Hymn – “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” ELW 634

- 1 **All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.**
- 2 **O seed of Israel’s chosen race now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.**
- 3 **Hail him, you heirs of David’s line, whom David Lord did call
the God incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.**
- 4 **Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.**

- 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.
to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.
- 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

Sermon: "A Vision of Hope"

Hymn of the Day – "Jesus Shall Reign" ELW 434

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
- 4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
- 5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

**The Apostles' Creed*

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

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

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*

Stewardship Time

“Behold the Host Arrayed in White” (ELW 425)

Pat Kiihne, Soloist

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

**The Offertory*

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.

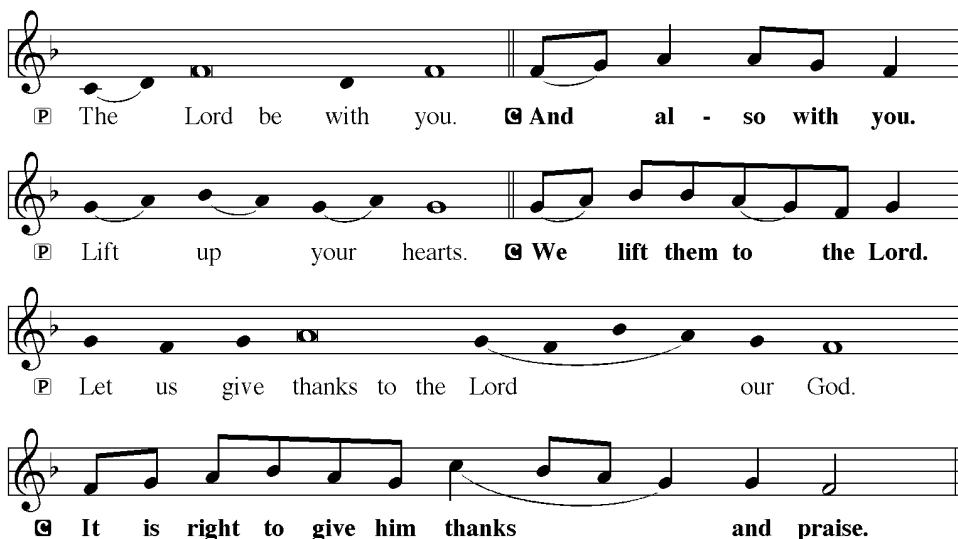
**Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*



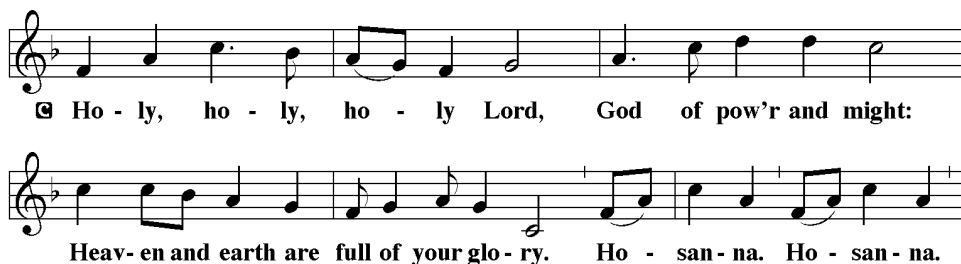
♩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

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

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

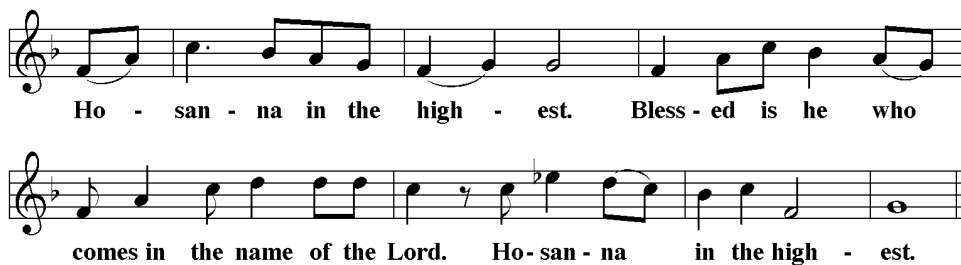
☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... 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.



**Words of Institution*

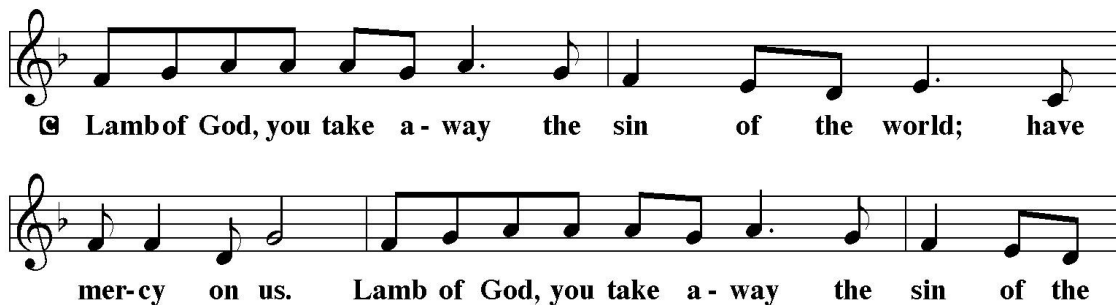
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

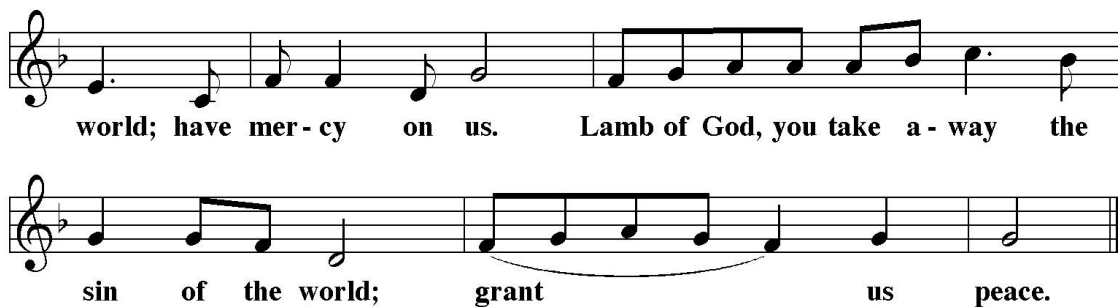
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**Agnus Dei*



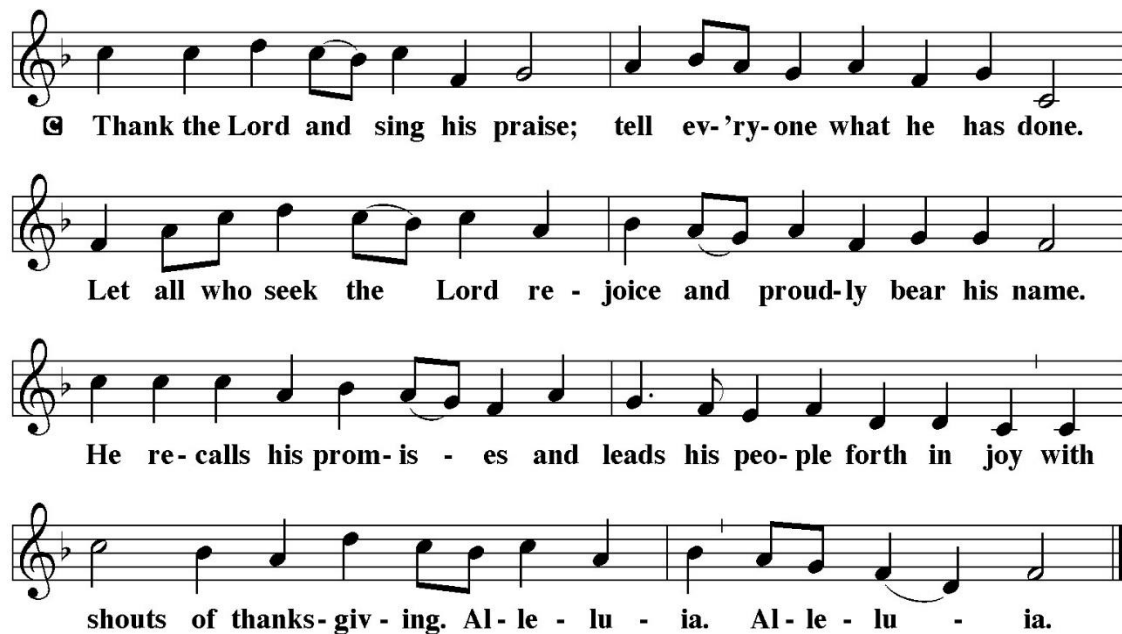


Communion Hymn

“Jesus Loves Me” (ELW 595)

Instrumental

**Post-Communion Canticle*



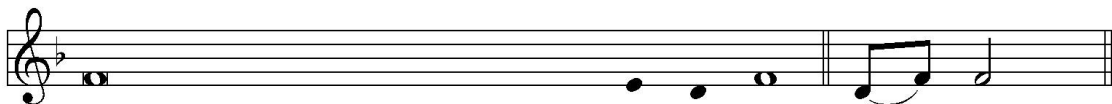
**Sending Prayer*

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

**Benediction*



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

Sending Hymn – “Crown Him with Many Crowns” ELW 855

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love--behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

- 5 **Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The altar plants are given today
by the Roth family in celebration of Sam's birthday today
and
by the Dichsen family in honor of Pastor Adam's Birthday on August 6

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Greeter: Liddy Stark

Reader: Terri Kimler

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Financial Assistants: Greg Kimler & Kay Schnitker

Chancel Committee: Kris Roth

Coffee Host: Karen Sibert

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson

Marilyn Dichsen

Greg Kimler

Ken Devlin

Kelly Hartz

Patty Nelson



Monica Proefrock
Kay Schnitker
Kelly Street

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, August 3, 9:30am: Outdoor Contemporary Worship
11:00am: Indoor Traditional Worship

Monday, August 4, 6:00pm: Worship Team Meeting
Tuesday, August 5, 4:00pm: Appeal Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 6:30-8:30pm: Faith Pool Party at Nichols Park Pool
Sunday, August 10, 9:30am: Worship
4:00pm: JACC Family Day at Community Park
Friday, August 15, 6:00pm: Esprit de Corps Performance at Faith
Saturday, August 16, 6:00pm: Esprit de Corps Performance at Faith

News Updates

First Sunday Summer Worship Schedule

Our first, first-Sunday worship was a joy as we enjoyed the beauty of God's creation outdoors with a contemporary service at 9:30 a.m. and the comforts of air-conditioning with a full traditional service at 11:00 a.m. Not only are these services set in different sanctuaries, but the style of worship is distinctly different. The outdoor contemporary service is more casual with a less scripted liturgy. The music selection includes some of our familiar contemporary songs, as well as those you may hear on the radio. The indoor traditional service is more formal with a sung liturgy from the familiar Lutheran Book of Worship (green hymnal). The music selection includes familiar hymns led on the organ. Our final first-Sunday summer service will be held **on September 7**.

Faith Pool Party - Rescheduled!

Join us on Thursday, August 7th from 6:30-8:30pm at the Nichols Park Pool for a pool party! In addition to the splashing and splashing, we'll have lawn games available for those who want to join in the fun but don't want to swim. Feel free to bring snacks and nonalcoholic drinks, and invite friends to join you. We can have up to 80 swimmers. This event is brought to you by the newly formed Gathering in Faith Together (GIFT) Team. Look for more events for the whole congregation coming soon!

Esprit de Corps Free Theater Camp

Faith is hosting this wonderful theater camp with Esprit de Corps for children going into grades 3-8. They are learning one of Ken Bradbury's plays, "We Can Change the World," with performances on **Friday and Saturday, August 15th and 16th at 6:00pm at Faith**.

Jacksonville Area Community Food Center

With summer here and kids being out of school, there is need for lunch foods that kids can "cook" easily at home. Some ideas: canned pasta and meat (Chef Boyardee), canned chicken or tuna, cereal, canned soups, peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, Ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, juice, canned fruit, Gatorade, and Jello or pudding cups. Please consider donating to the Food Center – you can put your donations in the cloth bins in the Mission and Ministry Center (coat closet).

A Day at the Ferris Wheel at Community Park

On August 10, the Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches (JACC) is hosting a community day at the park from 4:00-6:00 p.m. There will be free Ferris Wheel rides, hotdogs and drinks, live music, bounce houses, and more. If you would like to help in any way, from planning to serving to playing music, please let Pastor Adam know. This event is part of the Jacksonville 200th anniversary and a partnership with the Spirit of Faith Soup Kitchen.

Faithful Innovations – Central/Southern IL Synod--ELCA

Faithful Innovation is an invitation to deepen connections. It is a way to simplify, refocus, and reorient ourselves and towards God's activity. It is not another program, to-do list, or thing to add on top of already busy schedules. Rather, it is a way of life, a journey of discovery that draws us back into core stories of the faith and deepens our capacity to be led by God.

So how does it work? Participation in *Faithful Innovation* requires a team of 3-5 congregation members, and their faith leader, to work with a trained coach from our synod for monthly gatherings. The faith leader does not lead the group but serves as an encourager along the way. **The guiding teams and coaches commit to three, in-person trainings on September 13, December 6, and March 14.**

While there is no cost to participate in the training, we do invite congregations to consider a donation of \$30 per participant to help cover the cost of 3 lunches and snacks. In between trainings, guiding teams will explore their communities, listen for where the Spirit may be calling them into action, and share stories about what is being learned.

Maybe you are curious, maybe you are ready to say "yes" to this exciting journey, or maybe you have more questions about this adventure. Wherever you are at, feel free to give me a call at 315-277-3703 or email me at Jason.fisher@csis-elca.org to ask more questions or to get your guiding team registered.

Registration deadline for this round of trainings is Sunday August 10. I'm looking forward to joining you on this faith journey as we listen and follow God together.

Yours in Christ Jesus, Deacon Jason Fisher, Central/Southern IL Synod