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**Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor**  
**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.*

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SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

***EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155***

**\*GATHERING**

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

PRELUDE

*Morning*

Grieg

**\*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

God our Father, our Creator,  
who made the heavens and earth  
**We are your children,**  
**and we are in awe of all you have made.**  
Christ the Son, our Redeemer and Savior,  
You lived and died for us all  
**You live again,**  
**and have prepared the way for us.**  
Holy Spirit, the Sustainer,  
You move in us and among us  
**We follow your wisdom**  
**and feel your presence.**  
Holy God, Triune, Three-in-one,  
help us to know you more fully.  
**Guide us in this time of worship. Amen**

—by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

## \*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 HYMN

*Morning Has Broken*

ELW 556

\*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. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, they are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalm 145:8–14

*Prayed in unison by the congregation.*

**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
LORD, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.  
All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.  
They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,  
that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.  
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words,  
and loving in all your works.  
The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.**

### SECOND READING

Romans 7:15 -25a

*Life enslaved under sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be bad. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

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

SERMON

\*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ, living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

**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

Rejoicing in the good news of God come near, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation... O God, strengthen and empower your church. Where it is weak or timid, raise up leaders. Support it with your gift of inner strength and peace. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Creator God, the earth groans when we do not regard it with loving care. Forgive us for polluting the water and the air, for stripping the land of its natural resources, and for caring more about our own comfort than the long-term health of humanity and creation. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

How beautiful it is when sisters and brothers dwell together in unity. Help us appreciate the differences among us, to seek to understand one another, and to work together for harmony. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Holy source of hope, so many people are in pain today. Give us hearts of compassion, hands that heal, and lips that speak words of comfort and encouragement. Surround with your love all those in need, especially... Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

As you walked with Abraham and Sarah, the magi, and all who follow your call, be with those who travel this day: pilots and truckers, cab drivers and train engineers, those on vacation and those on the road for work. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

*Additional prayers may be offered here in speech and silence.*

Alpha and Omega, you are with us from our first breath to our last. We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in your loving arms, especially... May the promise of the resurrection sustain those who trust in you. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

## \*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## MEAL

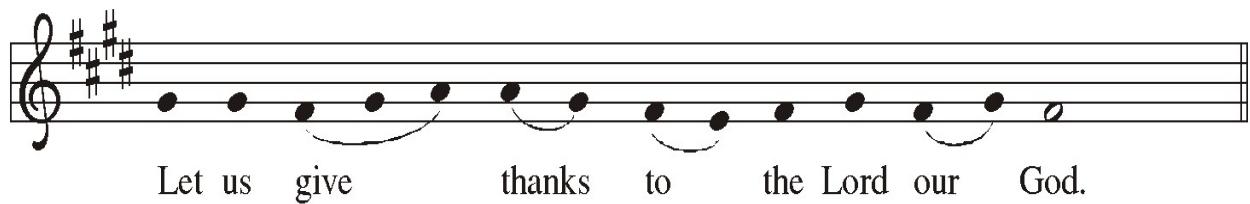
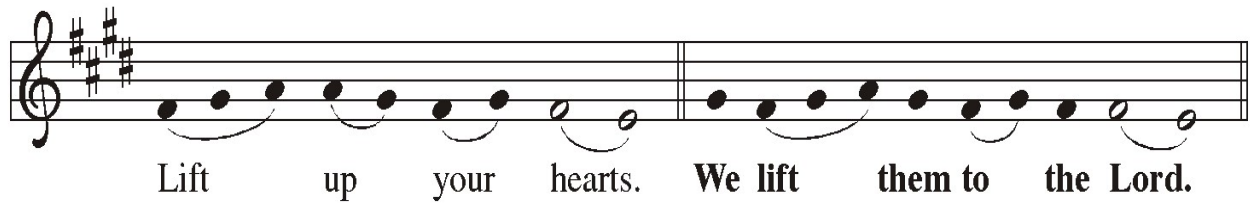
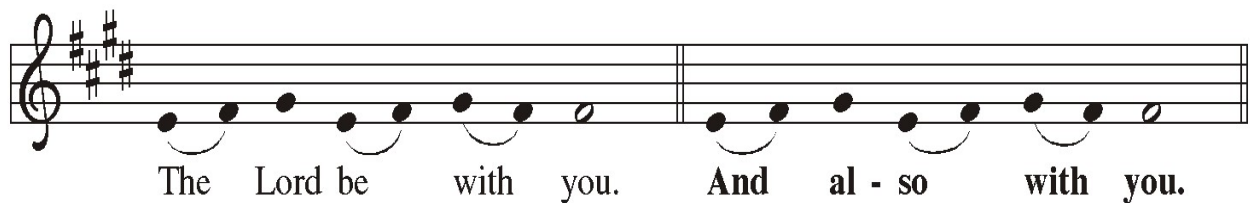
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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

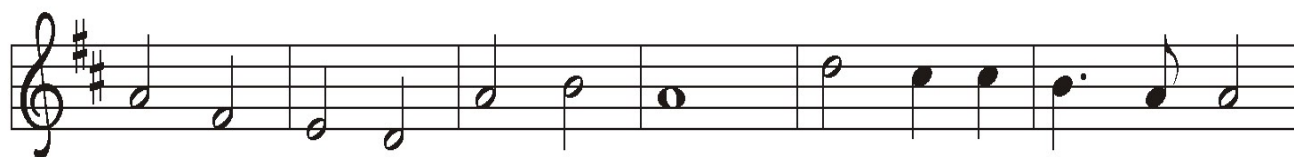
### \*DIALOGUE



### \*PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

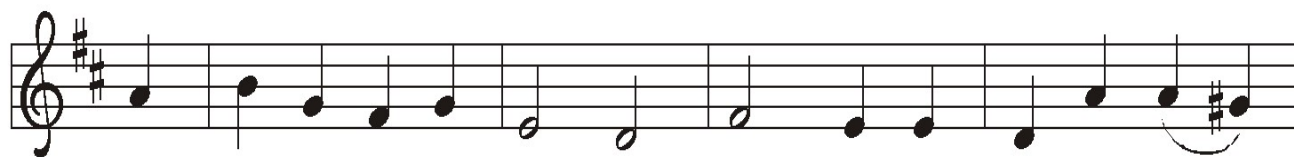
## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



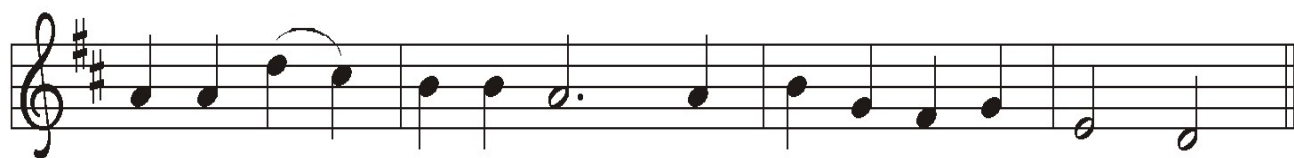
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
You have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
the promise to Israel,  
the rescue from Egypt,  
the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets;  
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.



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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants  
of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever. Amen**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

**Our Lord's body let us take together.**

DISTRIBUTION

*Romanza*

Wieniawski

**\*BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have fed us with this heavenly food. In your grace and by your Spirit, help us to be what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world. Send us out, renewed by this sacramental meal, to do the work you have given us to do: to witness for Christ, to love you with singleness of heart, and to serve you with clarity of purpose; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## SENDING

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

### \*BENEDICTION

The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen**

### \*SENDING HYMN

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

ELW 552

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace and joy. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE



## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Emily Bittner

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Carrie Watkiss

Lector

Kristine Boike

GREETER

Sandy Garvey

USHER

Rafael Martinez

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Fred Kuzel and John and Janet Broussard

## **IN THE PRAYERS...**

***Members of the Congregation:*** Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel.

***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Rev. Chris Anderson, Dwight Richard Anderson, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, David Basek, James and Lori Broussard, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Bill Holmes, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Julie Patron, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Sandy Rossella, Beth Sheldon, Stevie Singer, Elaine Sorich, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Joan Watkiss and Mike Yavorski.

\*Please let us know when people may be removed from the prayer list, and we will offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their healing!\*

### **Outdoor Worship this Summer and Autumn**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Welcoming Newly Registered Members with Ice Cream Social

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 10<sup>th</sup>**

A Day of Remembrance: Patriot Day, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
and Grandparents' Day with Potluck Meal

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, October 1<sup>st</sup>**

Blessing of Pets and Animals  
in Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi,  
renewer of the church, died 1226.

**Hitzeman Funeral Home** is assisting the Lions Clubs International in collecting usable eyeglasses for their "Recycle For Sight" program. If you have old glasses and/or cases at home that will no longer be needed, please bring them to church and place them in the green box located on the brochure table in the hallway off the dining hall. Thank you.

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540*

*Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>*

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.

*Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1931*

*Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>*

A winner of the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to unite peoples after the First World War, Söderblom also called attention to the revival of early church worship principles, and helped to lay the groundwork for the World Council of Churches.

### **Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2023:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,840.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ 687.00

### **Prayer**

*In times of weakness and hour of need,  
yours is the strength by which we carry on,  
the shoulder we rest our head upon.  
When our load is heavy and too much to bear,  
yours are the arms stretched out to help us  
the grace that we depend on.  
In times of weakness and hour of need,  
your voice is heard,  
'Come... find rest.'  
This is grace divine,  
the path we tread to wholeness  
of body and spirit,  
the path that leads to you,  
and for which we offer our offering of praise.*

—written by John Birch and posted on “Faith and Worship.”

## *All Creation Sings—*

A recently released hymnal supplement to *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters at Sts. Peter and Paul,

Back in the fall of 2020, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America released *All Creation Sings (ACS)*, a hymnal supplement that goes hand in hand with *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)* to support the church's mission of worship in Word and Sacraments that leads to service and justice in the world. *ACS* invites us to expand our song and prayer with timely attention to the health of our planetary home and the human community within it. Included are 200 hymns and songs, more than 30 of them multilingual and many being new since *ELW* was released.

We have been downloading and including hymns from *ACS* in our worship bulletins as needed over the past several months; however, the formatting of the included hymns is difficult to read for many of our members. The Worship and Music Committee has recommended we purchase pew editions of *ACS* to use in our services in conjunction with *ELW*.

You are invited to prayerfully contemplate and donate towards the cost of obtaining these pew editions. See the attached form for more details. Should you wish your donation(s) to commemorate a special event or to be given in memory of a departed loved one or loved ones, please indicate this on the form. Bookplates will be placed in each copy for each donation received.

I pray that God's Holy Spirit guide you as you consider this commitment.

In Christ,

*Charles Matthies*

*Chairperson, Sts. Peter and Paul Worship and Music Committee*

*(Please complete the form on the reverse side and return as indicated.)*

## Donate a Hymnal!

You can contribute a copy or copies of *All Creation Sings* for just \$15.00 each. Please provide the information requested below, attach a check, and either drop it in the offering plate or send it to the church office.

If you are donating more than one hymnal, please use a separate form for each donation. Extra forms are available at the back of church, in the weekly bulletins, or the church office.

Thank you!

Please complete the information below as you would like it to appear on the nameplate in the hymnal.

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your donation will appear on your mailed contribution statement:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope No: \_\_\_\_\_

# Prayer for Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled, as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

~ St. Francis of Assisi