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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.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WITH THE OBSERVANCE OF ST. LUKE, EVANGELIST, OCTOBER 18TH
October 15th, 2023 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

From the visit of Mary to Elizabeth's house; through the visits of Jesus to Zacchaeus's house, Mary and Martha's house, and Levi's house; to the visit of the risen Christ to Cleopas's house, Luke's Gospel is a story of God's hospitality. God is guest and host, and Jesus' meal fellowship is a proclamation of God's inner circle of outsiders, a gathering not of the righteous but of those who have received God's mercy.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Fantasia

Vaughan Williams

***WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 92:1,2,4; 95:1-3; 100:2-4

It is good to praise the LORD
and make music to your name, O Most High,
**to proclaim your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night.**

For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD;
I sing for joy at the works of your hands.

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.**

For the LORD is the great God,
the great King above all gods.

Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Let us pray.

Eternal God our creator, in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God + forgives us all our sins. **Amen**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky

ELW 553

***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 God, you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song. The readings for today are assigned for the Commemoration of St. Luke, evangelist, and are not printed on the back cover of this worship folder.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:8-13

Set in the framework of a court of law, this poem describes God calling Israel to the witness stand to testify to the fact that God alone is the true God.

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

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:5-11

Knowing that death draws near, Paul, a prisoner in Rome, closes his letter to Timothy in a way that exemplifies how Christians face death: thankful for the grace to finish the race and trusting in the final blessing that awaits him in Christ.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 172

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the First Chapter...
Glory to you, O Lord.

These introductory and concluding verses of Luke's Gospel provide us with the reason he is writing: so that we might know the truth about Jesus Christ who, in his suffering, death, and resurrection, fulfilled the ancient promises of God.

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

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Now We Join in Celebration

ELW 462

*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

Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us words to speak and hearts that care, let us bring our hopes and needs to God who listens.

Come near us, Lord God. Let your church rejoice at your banquet where all are invited and welcomed, washed and fed, forgiven and chosen. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your creation rejoice in green pastures, beside still waters, on mountaintops, in harvested fields, along city streets, down country roads, and throughout the valleys. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your world rejoice in peace which surpasses understanding, at tables overflowing with good food and drink, and where shrouds of sorrow are lifted. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your people rejoice with faces wiped free of tears, minds unbound from disgrace, bodies freed from suffering, and souls restored. Especially we pray for... . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Come near us, Lord God. Let your faithful rejoice in every assembly, in praise and singing, word and deed, unrestrained from worry and unchained from fear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

With thanksgiving, we remember the evangelist Luke and all who have gone before us in the faith, especially... Inspire us by their witness and bring us, together with them, to your heavenly banquet to feast with you in paradise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

*PEACE

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

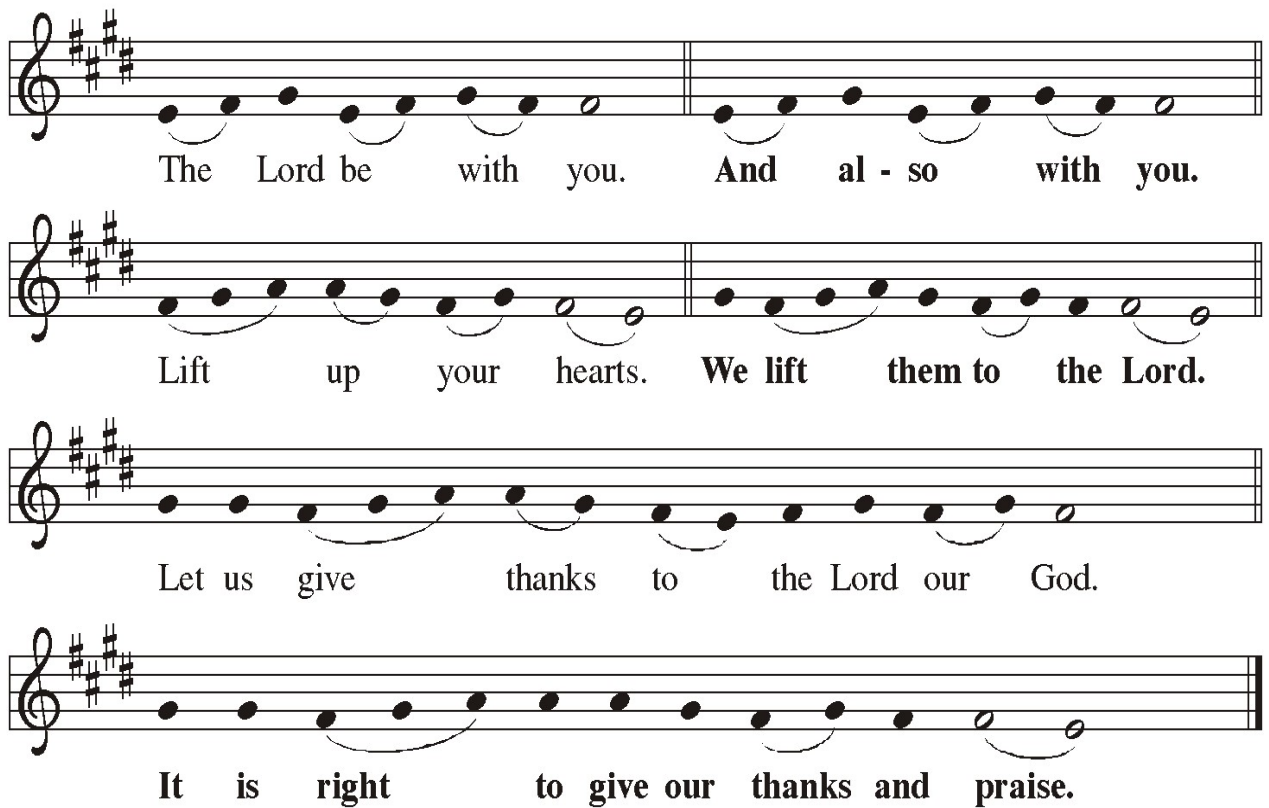
MEAL

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



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

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

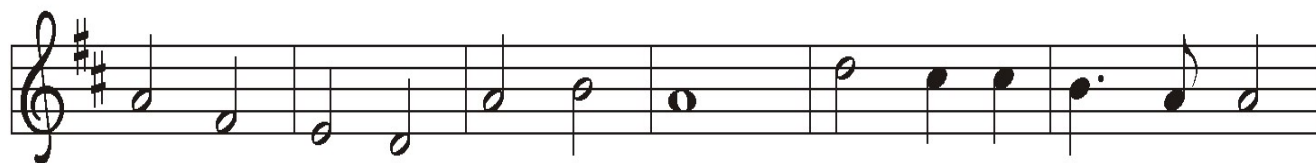
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE FOR SAINTS

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. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with Luke, the evangelist, and all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

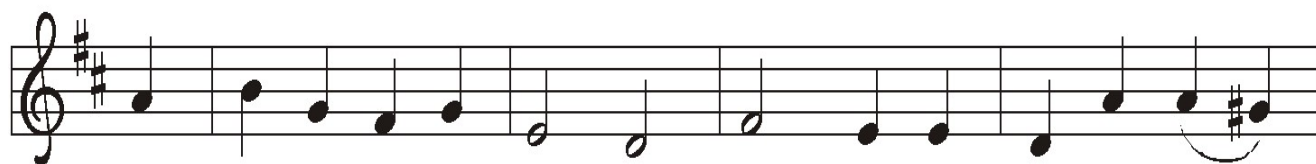
*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



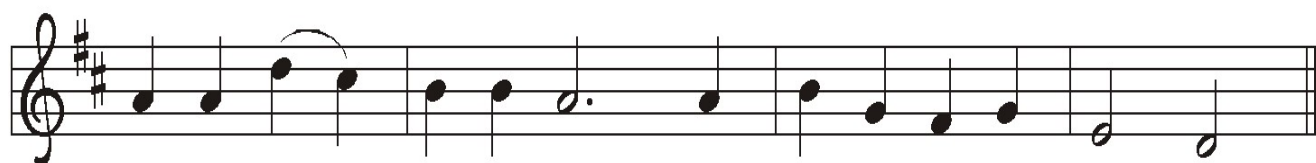
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, 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

Schmücke Dich

J. S. Bach

***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

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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Tom Myers

GREETERS

Bettye Harden and Staci Harden

USHER

Rafael Martinez

LIVE STREAM

Fred Kuzel

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Janice Hapgood

IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Bettye Harden, Anita Horak, Marge Lemere, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Wally Bisping, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Marilyn Dunne, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Mary Kmet, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Mary Frances Mason, Michele Mason, Julie Mroz, Donald Neal, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Georgia Stockman, Gertrude Tarbox and Janie Tarbox.

God's blessings and congratulations to **Michelle Dizon and Brandon Michaels**, who were united in marriage yesterday in Rockford. "O Lord, fill them with patience, kindness, gentleness, and all other gifts of your Spirit, so that they may fulfill the vows they have made. Keep them faithful to you and to each other. Fill them with such love and joy that they may build a home of peace and welcome. Guide them by your word to serve you all their days" (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 82).



The church office will be closed beginning tomorrow, October 16th through October 20th. I will be back in the office on Monday, October 23rd. Thank you!

—Karen Rouleau, *Administrative Assistant*

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Teresa of Avila, teacher, renewer of the church, died 1582
Sunday, October 15th

A mystical writer and reformer of the monastic order (Carmelites) to which she belonged, Teresa may also be commemorated with John of the Cross on December 14. Latino Christians traditionally remember her on this date.

Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, martyr, died around 115
Tuesday, October 17th

Ignatius was the second bishop of Antioch in Syria, the city where the name "Christians" originated. Ignatius is known to us from his letters, which encouraged Christians to live in love, yet stand firm in true doctrine.

Luke, Evangelist
Wednesday, October 18th

Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

