

# Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

***Preaching and presiding this day: Pastor Todd Bertani***

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***Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411***

Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors.



**May 03, 2026**

***5th Sunday of Easter***

**Julie Varilek, Accompanist**

**Prelude: "People Need the Lord" - McHugh & Nelson**

## **Welcome, Friends in Christ,**

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**.*

*We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher to use during the service. Parents, please note, these contain a snack.*

*Please know that EVERYONE is invited to receive communion, where we are all guests at God's table.*

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## **Welcome and Introduction: Pastor Todd Bertani**

### **Call to Worship: "Praise Ye the Lord" by Gordon Young**

*(You may stand, in body or spirit)*

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.  
We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.  
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.  
Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our  
journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.

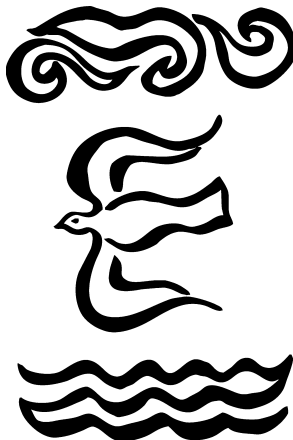
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving  
you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**



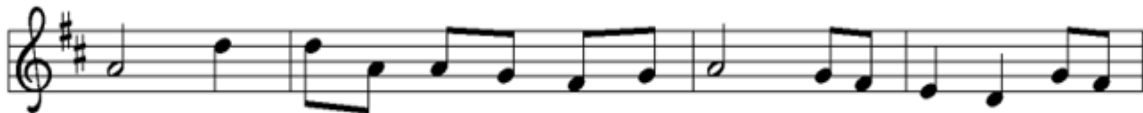
## Opening Hymn: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" *Hymn 393*



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall  
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives  
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers  
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.  
see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -  
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

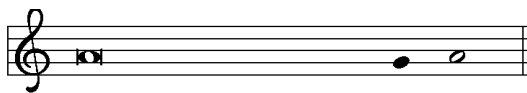
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Greeting

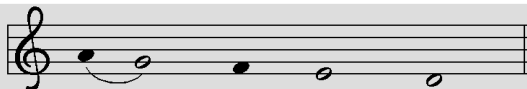
The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

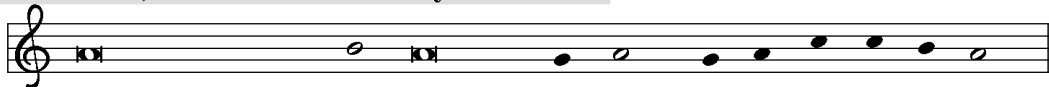
# Kyrie (Congregation sings the highlighted refrain)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



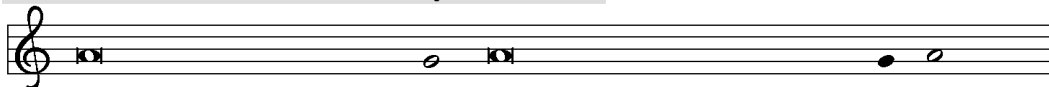
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a-b-ove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



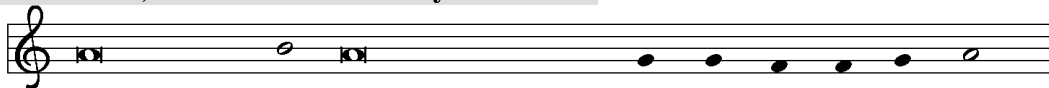
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

**A - - men.**

# Canticle of Praise: (Congregation sings the highlighted section)

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

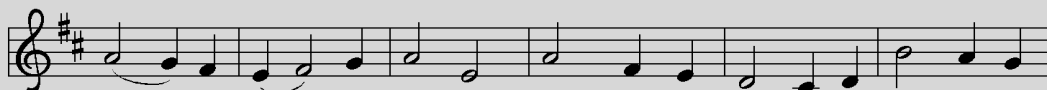
*Refrain*



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

God of the unknown,  
**Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit,  
and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand.  
Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

### First Reading: Acts 17:16-31

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, “What does this pretentious babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities.” (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) <sup>19</sup> So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup> It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” <sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual 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 peoples 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 fumble about 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.”

*(You may stand, in body or spirit)*

## 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.

## **Gospel: John 1:14-18**

*The holy gospel according to John Chapter 1.*

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*(You may be seated)*

**Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani**

**Sermon Notes:**

## Sermon Hymn: "Beautiful Savior" Hymn 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Intercessory Prayer

Each petition ends: “Merciful God,”  
Response is “**receive our prayer.**”

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## Offering

*Online  
Giving*



**Offertory: “Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Alive!”** by *Lloyd Larson & Brian Wren*  
**Chuck Varilek on trumpet**

*(You may stand, in body or spirit)*

## Receiving of Gifts

## Offering Prayer

Merciful God,  
**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

## 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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second and fourth staves have a grey background behind the lyrics. The lyrics are: '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.', and '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:

## “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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God,  
you alone are holy,  
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day;  
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;

near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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 his love for us  
on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal;  
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**Amen.**

## 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.

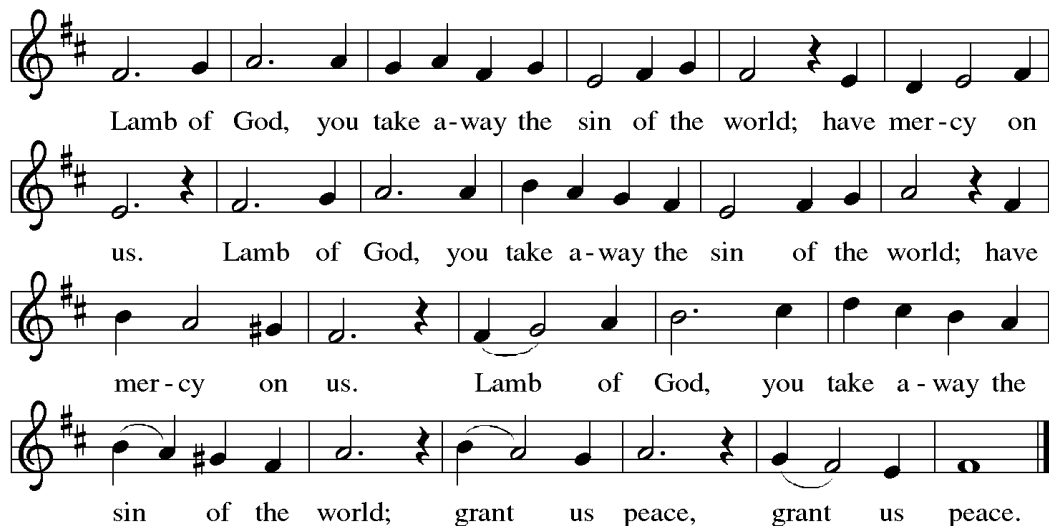
## Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

*We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice. We are all guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

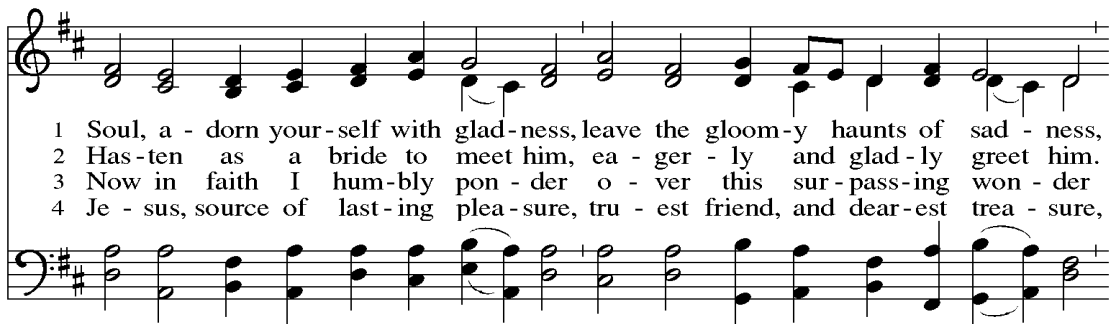
*(You may be seated)*

## Lamb of God

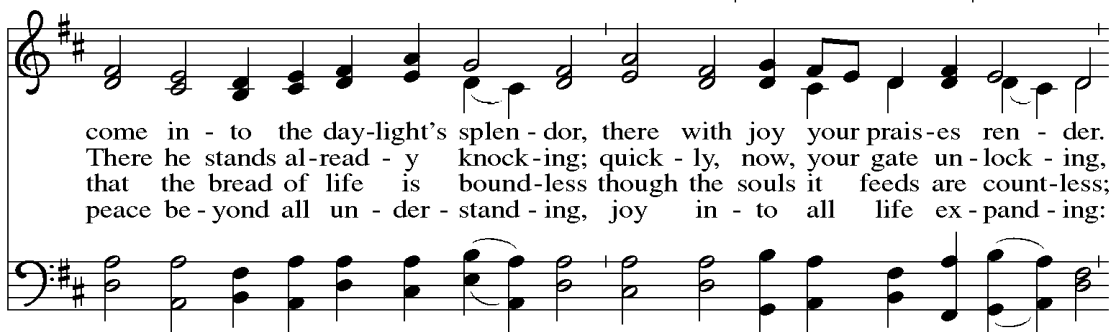


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

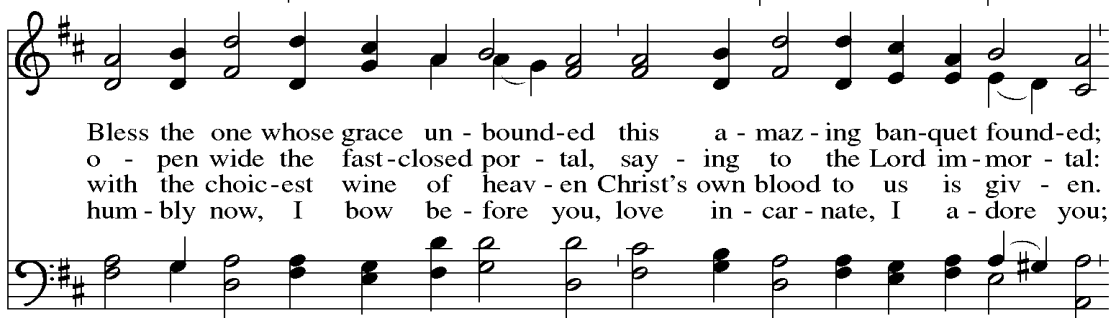
## Communion Hymn: "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" Hymn 488



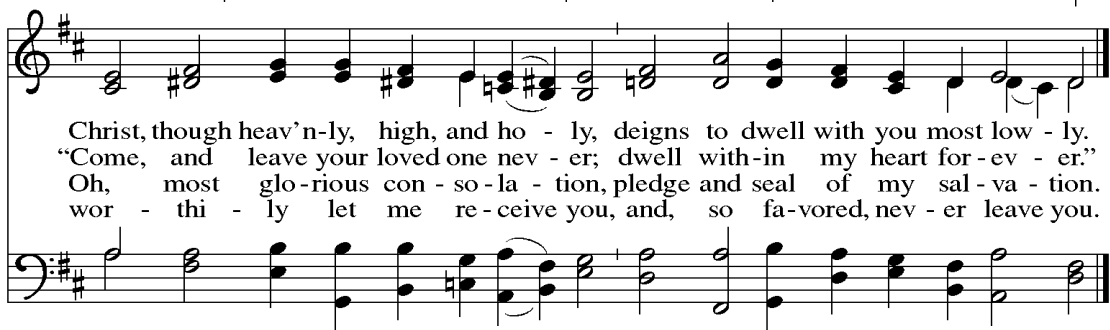
1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y haunts of sad - ness,  
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.  
3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur - pass - ing won - der  
4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and dear - est trea - sure,



come in - to the day - light's splen - dor, there with joy your prais - es ren - der.  
There he stands al - read - y knock - ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,  
that the bread of life is bound - less though the souls it feeds are count - less;  
peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:



Bless the one whose grace un - bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed;  
o - pen wide the fast - closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:  
with the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en.  
hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;



Christ, though heav'n - ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
"Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."  
Oh, most glo - rious con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.  
wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Post Communion Blessing

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

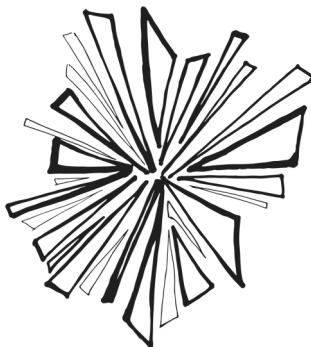
## Post Communion Prayer

Holy One,  
**through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.**  
In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

*(You may stand, in body or spirit)*

## Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
† bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



# Sending Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine" *Hymn 677*

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935  
 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Dismissal

Go into the world:

Dance, laugh, sing, and create.

**We go with the assurance of God's blessing.**

Go into the world:

Risk, explore, discover, and love.

**We go with the assurance of God's grace.**

Go into the world:

Believe, hope, struggle, and remember.

**We go with the assurance of God's love.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**Postlude: "The Church's One Foundation" - Stone & Wesley**

