

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Todd Bertani

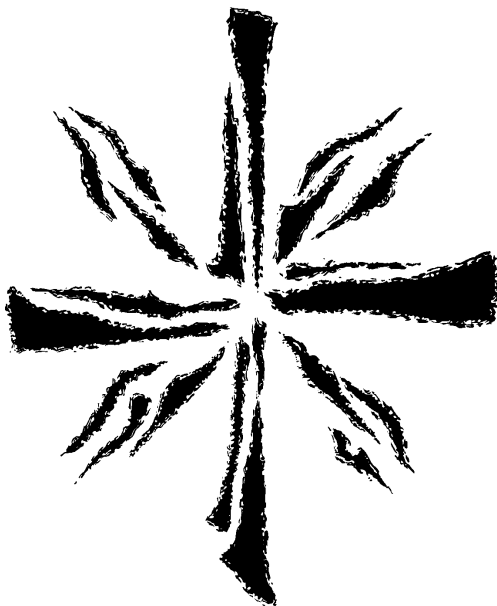
Church Website: smlcestes.org

Office Email: secretary@smlcestes.org 970-586-3900

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



August 16, 2026

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Julie Varilek, Accompanist

Prelude: "Worthy of Worship" by York/Blankenship

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. Please note: The bags contain a treat.

Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.

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Now the Feast: Text and Music: Marty Haugen: ©1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani

Call to Worship: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. by Craig Courtney

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

(Brief silence for reflection)

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: "All Who Are Thirsty" *ACS Hymn 981*

Leader All

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters. All who are hun - gry, come here and eat. All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters. There's e - nough for all.' The words 'All', 'come to the wa-ters.', 'come here and eat.', and 'There's e - nough for all.' are highlighted in yellow in the original image. The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear phrase structure. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment.

All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters. All who are hun - gry, come here and eat. All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters. All who are thirst - y, There's e - nough for all.

Text: Brian Wentzel, b. 1979

Music: ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY, Brian Wentzel

Text and music © 2014 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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 text)

Assistant:

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:

Refrain Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant:

For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda **Refrain**

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

* Ending for Kyrie

God.

A - - - men.

Now The Feast

(Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain)

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

Salutation



Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-3

¹ But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

Second Reading: Psalm 16:1-11 *(read responsively)*

¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² **I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”**

³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones
in whom is all my delight.

⁴ **Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

⁶ **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷ I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ **I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

¹⁰ **For you do not give me up to Sheol
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Grace Talk: Robbi Telfer

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-26

The holy gospel according to Matthew Chapter 16.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."
²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani

Sermon Notes:

Sermon Hymn: "In Christ Called to Baptize" *Hymn 575*

1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,

and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.

In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.

then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876, alt.

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Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

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.

Choir Anthem: "And the Father Will Dance" *by Mark Hayes*

Receiving of Gifts

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

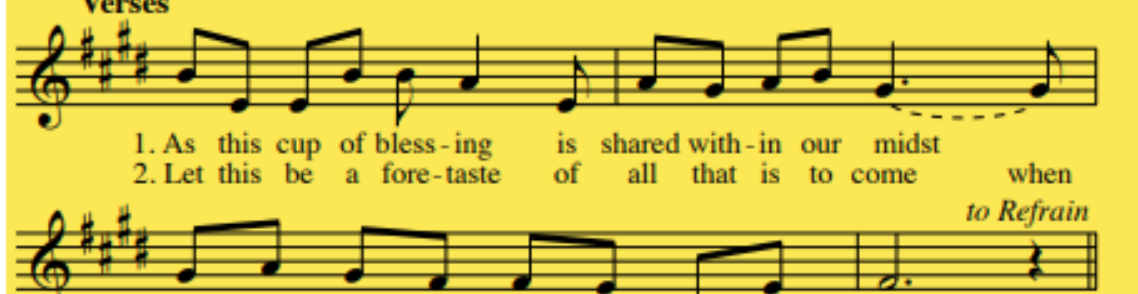
As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain
Congregation:

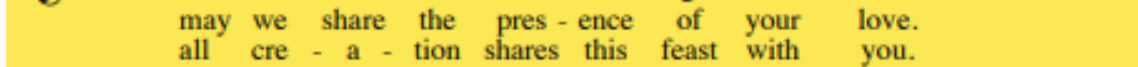


As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offering Prayer

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving *(Congregation sings highlighted text)*

The musical score is written for a Presider and a Congregation. It consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of text. The Congregation parts are highlighted in yellow.

Line 1:
Presider: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: And al-so with you.

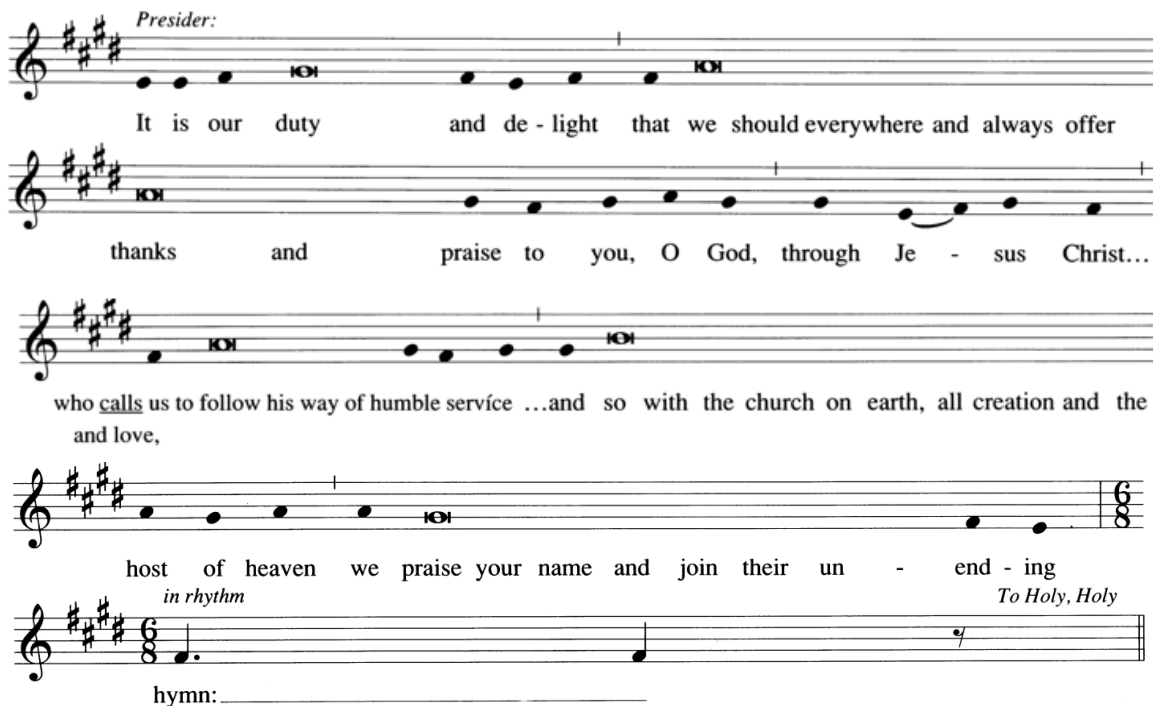
Line 2:
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Line 3:
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: It is

Line 4:
right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Presider:



It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer
 thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...
 who calls us to follow his way of humble service ...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the
 and love,
 host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing
in rhythm *To Holy, Holy*
 hymn: _____

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;
everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and
deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

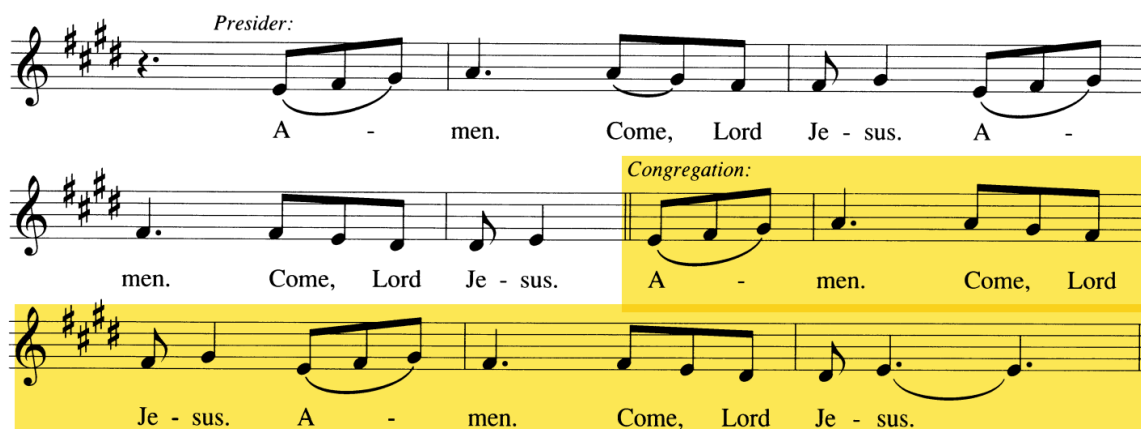
Take and eat;
this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death,
his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again,
even as we cry:

Eucharistic Acclamation



The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the Presider, and the subsequent two staves are for the Congregation. The lyrics are: "A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus." The Congregation part is highlighted in yellow.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

Congregation:

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that all of your promises may come to us
and your whole creation.

Presider:



A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

Congregation:



men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly
Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.
And now, make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba
as we pray:

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

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*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.*

(Please be seated)

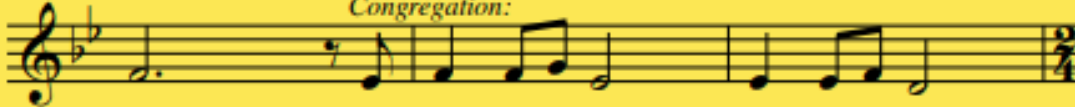
Lamb of God

Congregation:



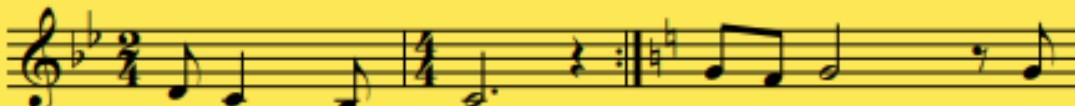
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

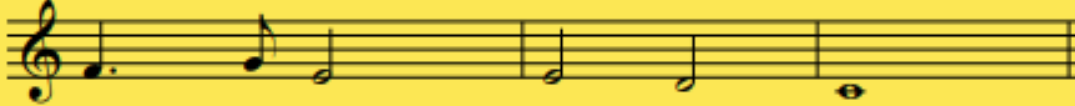


mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

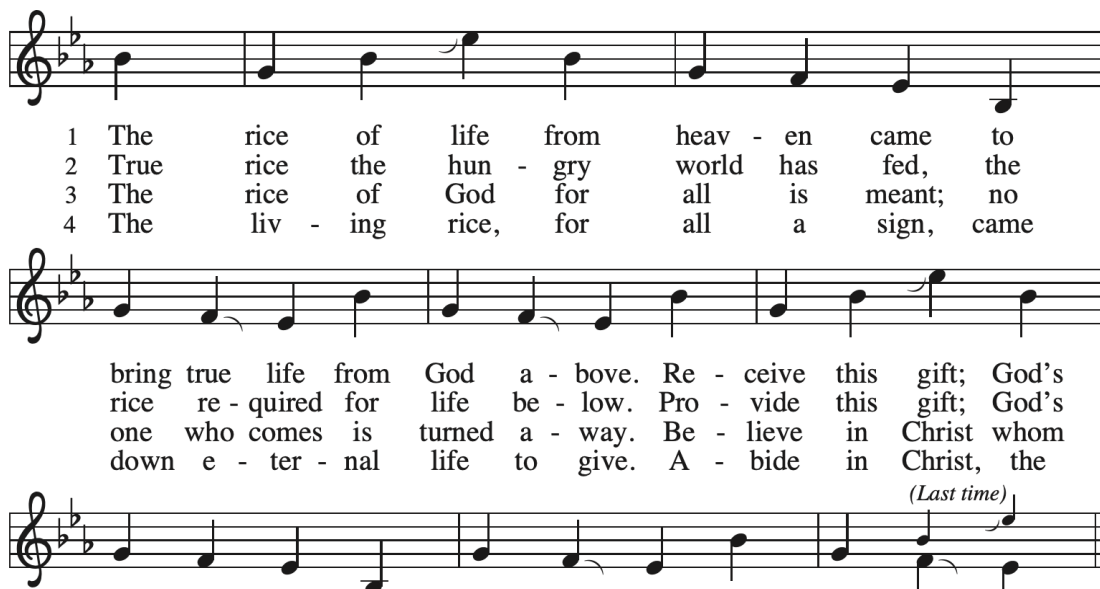


take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: “The Rice of Life” ACS Hymn 965



1 The rice of life from heav - en came to
2 True rice the hun - gry world has fed, the
3 The rice of God for all is meant; no
4 The liv - ing rice, for all a sign, came

bring true life from God a - bove. Re - ceive this gift; God's
rice re - quired for life be - low. Pro - vide this gift; God's
one who comes is turned a - way. Be - lieve in Christ whom
down e - ter - nal life to give. A - bide in Christ, the
(Last time)

mer - cy claim; in joy and pain give thanks for love.
mer - cy spread; in weak - ness God's com - pas - sion show.
God has sent; in hum - ble trust God's will o - bey.
liv - ing vine; in Christ, with peo - ple, die and live.

Text: J. Andrew Fowler, b. 1935

Music: BÍ-NÍU, I-to Loh, b. 1936

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Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

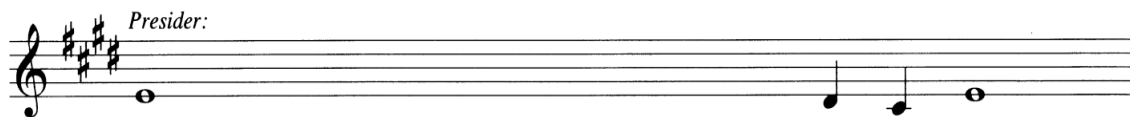
Post Communion Prayer

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Ministry Highlights (see insert)

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Blessing



May God bless us and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.

May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.



Sending Hymn: "Go the the World" ACS Hymn 991

1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Sending

As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,
and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you,
and crown all these things with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Amen.

(based on Colossians 3:12-14)

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "March" *George Frideric Handel*

