

Be doers of
the **WORD**

JAMES 1:22





Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, August 31, 2024 ~ 5:00 pm

Sunday, September 1, 2024 ~ 9:00 am

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ☩ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

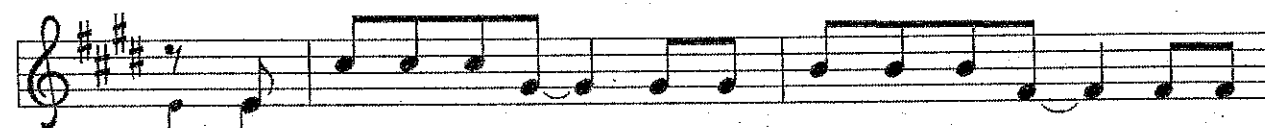
GATHERING SONG "For the Beauty of the Earth"

ELW #879

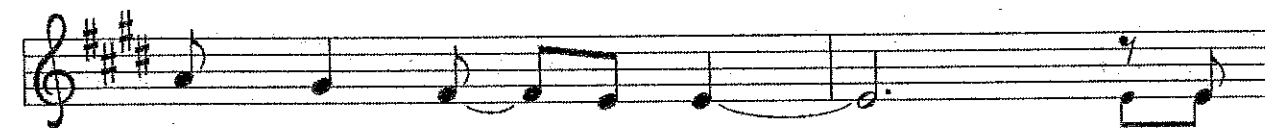
GREETING

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.

KYRIE



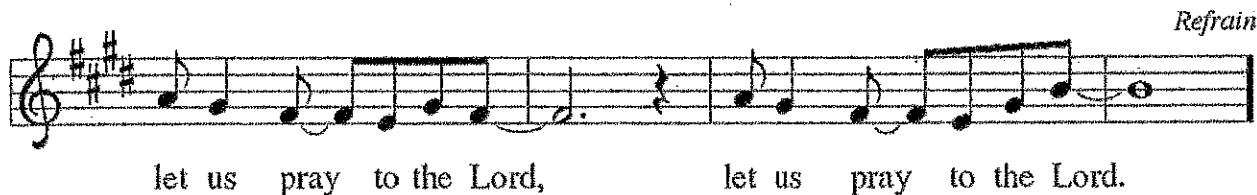
- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

A reading from James.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

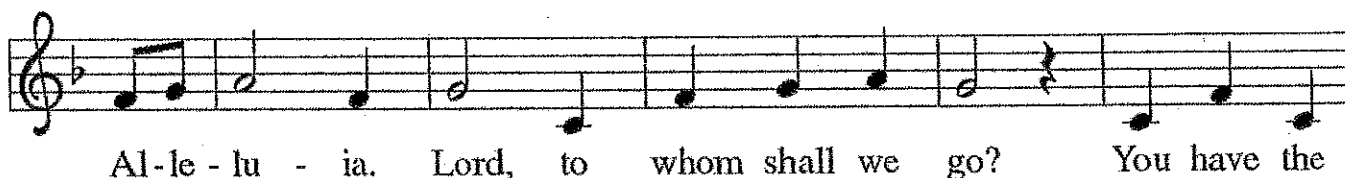
²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

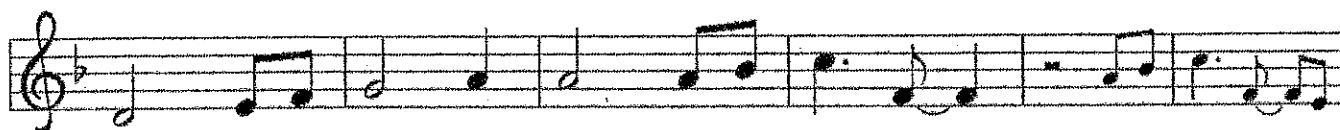
²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of the Lord.

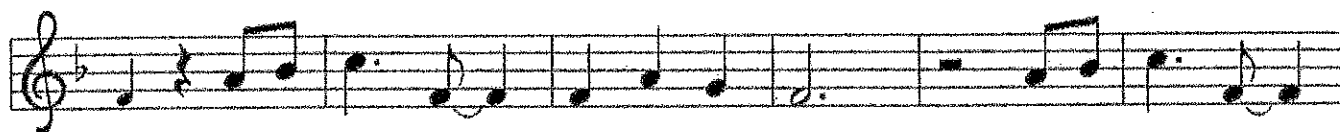
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

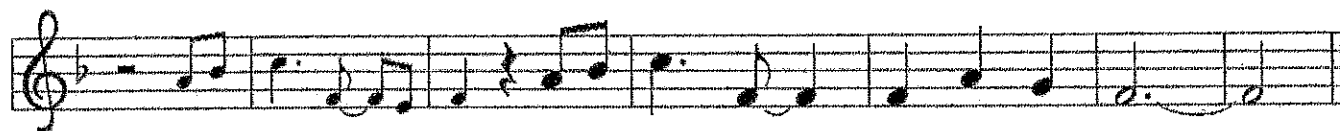




words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" ELW #772

APOSTLES 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

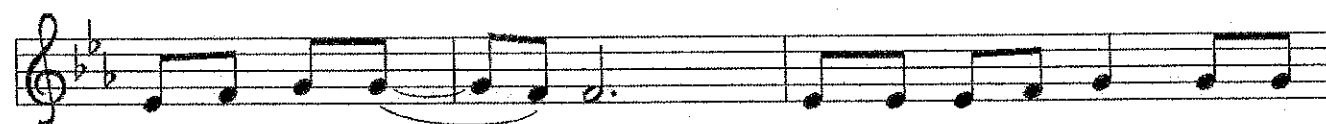
SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

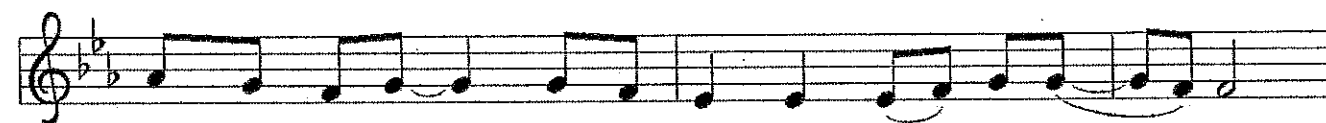
OFFERING SONG



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



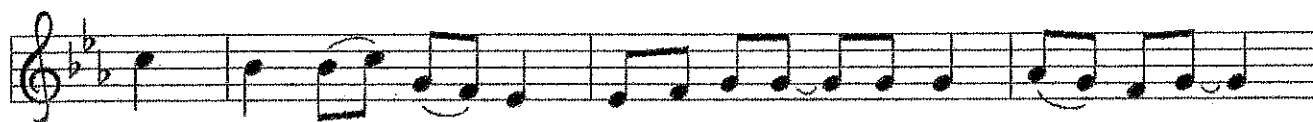
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



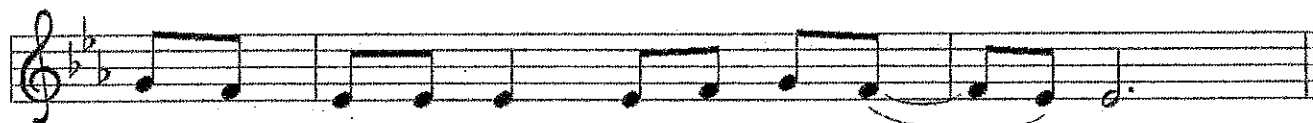
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

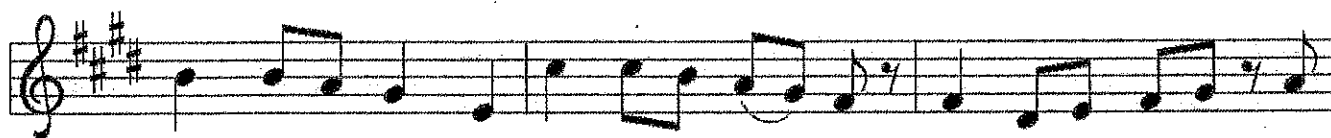
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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



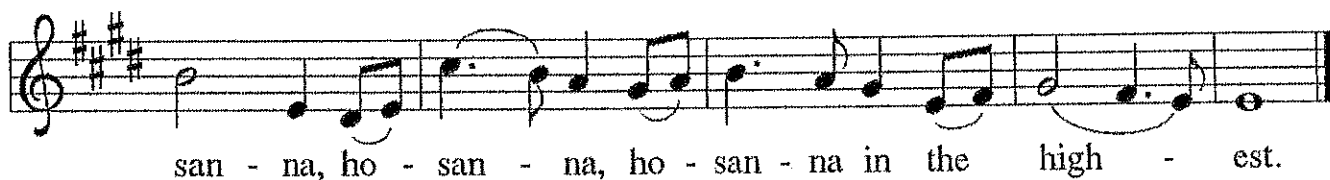
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

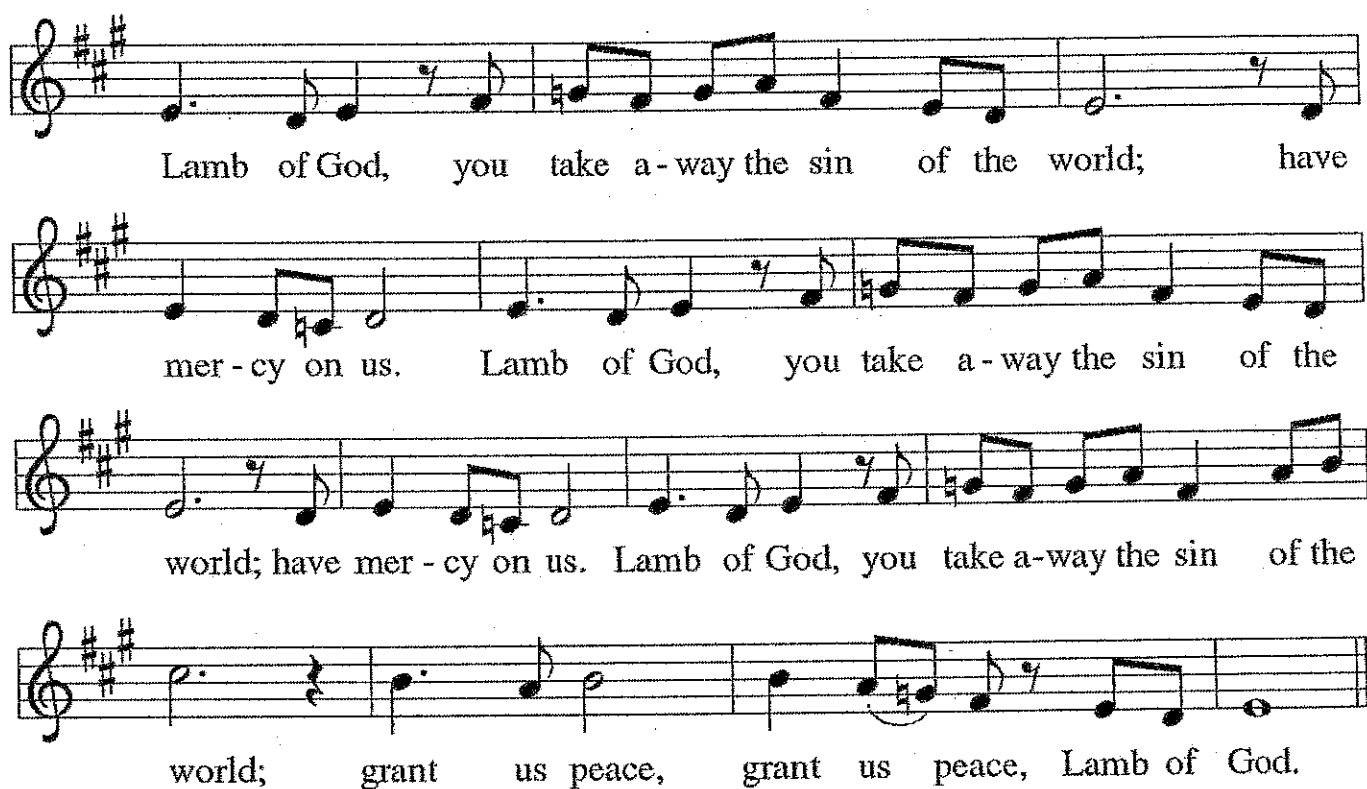


WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION SONG



THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is

present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Those who are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.

***Saturday**, the ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.*

***Sunday**, because we are not in straight rows outside, you will be invited to come forward at will to receive the bread from the pastor. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. There is a basket near the communion assistant where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat.*

COMMUNION HYMNS "Change My Heart, O God"

ELW #801

(sing through 2 times (refrain will be sung 3 times))

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

ELW #512

(sing through 2 times)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

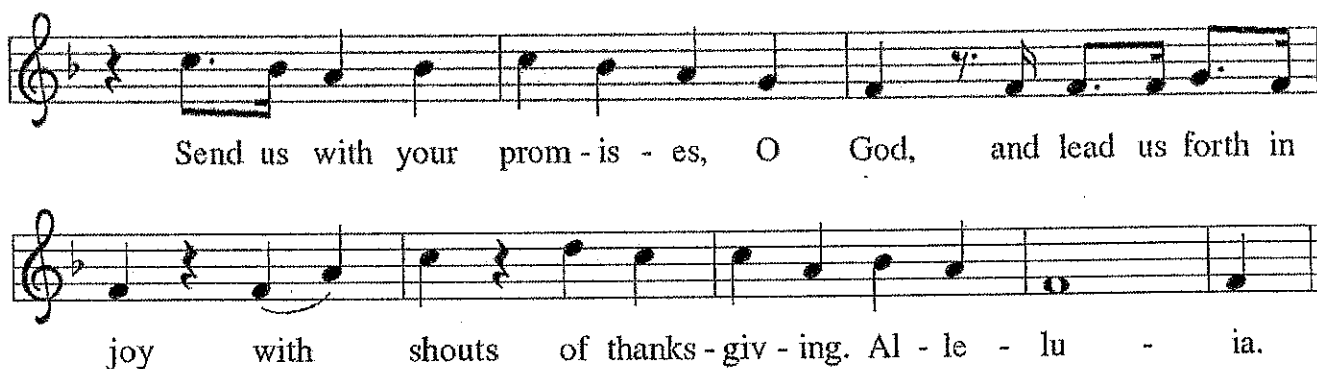
SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
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Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

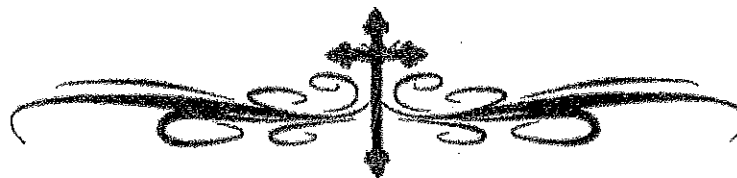
ELW #583

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

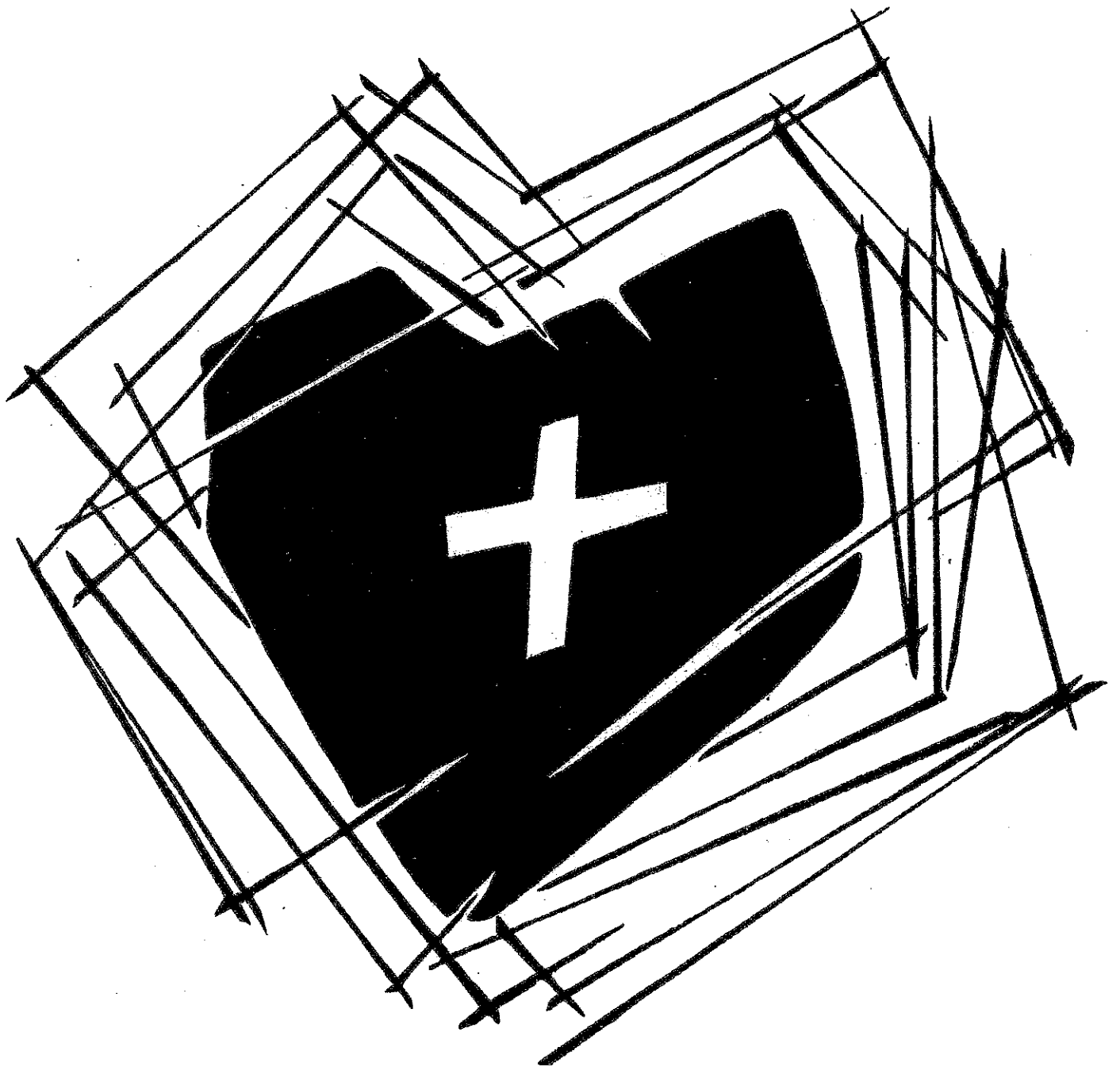


THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Joni King and Kris Schwien
Reader	Sue Braack
Communion Assistant	Gary King
Counters	Gary and Joni King

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Dave and Linda Golinghorst
Reader	Linda Golinghorst
Communion Assistant	Dave Golinghorst
Counters	Kristy Looney and Nina Looney

Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organist	Teri Wittkowsi and Susan Becker
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker
Online Streaming Crew	Lucas Golinghorst, Scott LaPlante, & Kevin Zidarich



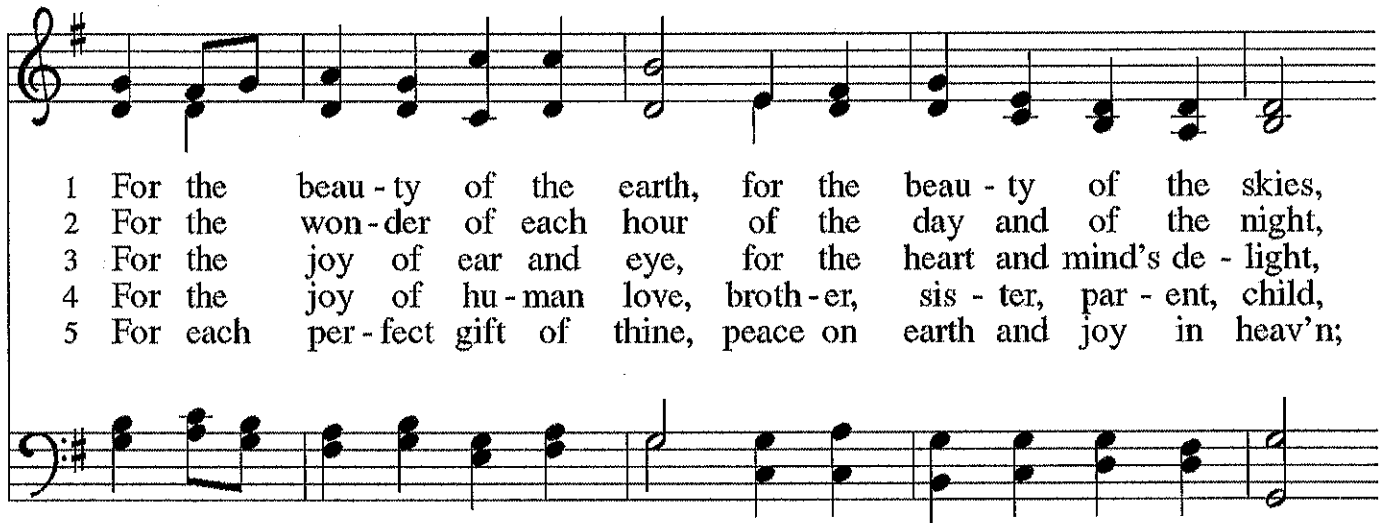
What Would Jesus Do?

At the outset, rules seem simple. They divide the world into good and bad and help us restore a measure of order to a chaotic world. Unfortunately, the same rules that we use to bring order out of chaos are often insufficient to deal with the complexity of our lives, which is one of the reasons there truly is an exception to every rule. This is also the reason we appoint judges: to interpret the law when it fails to adequately address the circumstance to which it is applied.

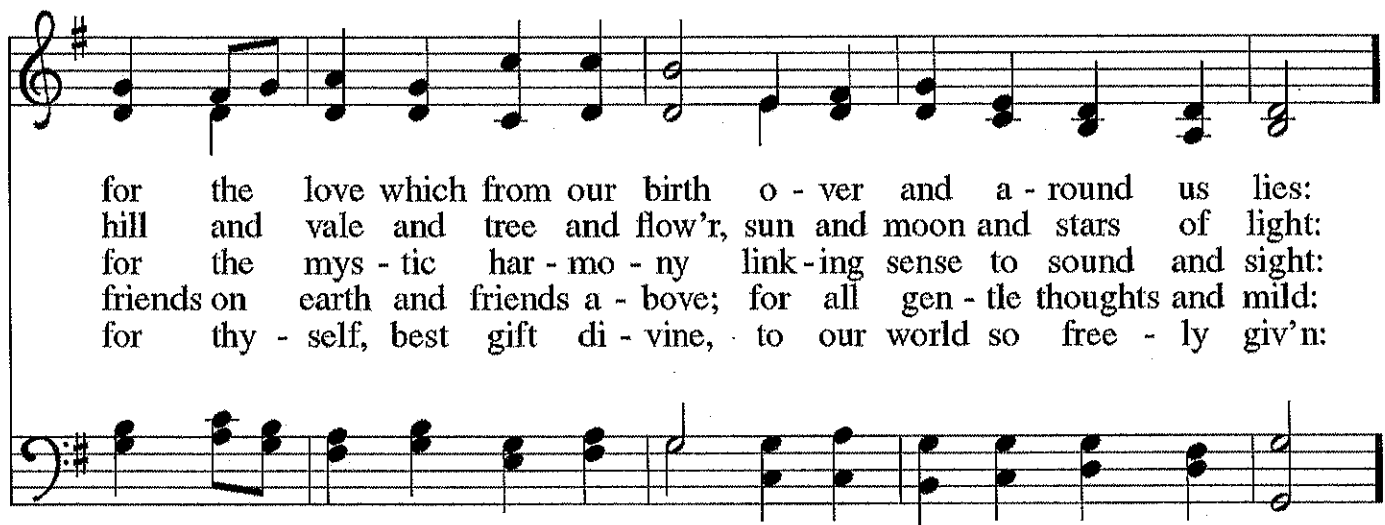
In Jesus' day the Pharisees and scribes were known for their strict observance of the law. So when they notice the disciples of Jesus eating with defiled hands, the Pharisees and scribes bring this perceived breach of the law to Jesus' attention. The law itself, which requires that people wash their hands before eating, originated from ancient purity laws. Jesus understands this and simultaneously upholds and reframes the law by drawing his listeners' attention away from the washing of hands to what truly defiles. In doing so, Jesus acts as a judge and offers an interpretation of the law that both upholds its original intent of purity and absolves the disciples of wrongdoing. At the same time, he exposes the prioritization of human precepts over God's command and reminds us of God's sovereignty and compassion.

Rules are simple, but our world is not. Through the incarnation, the Word made flesh, God meets us at the intersection of law and life. In Jesus, God the judge enters our world in a new way and interprets the law. And through Jesus, we come to understand God's will in a messy world. Therefore, if we as Christians truly want to live out the will of God, we do well to start with that old and simple question "What would Jesus do?"

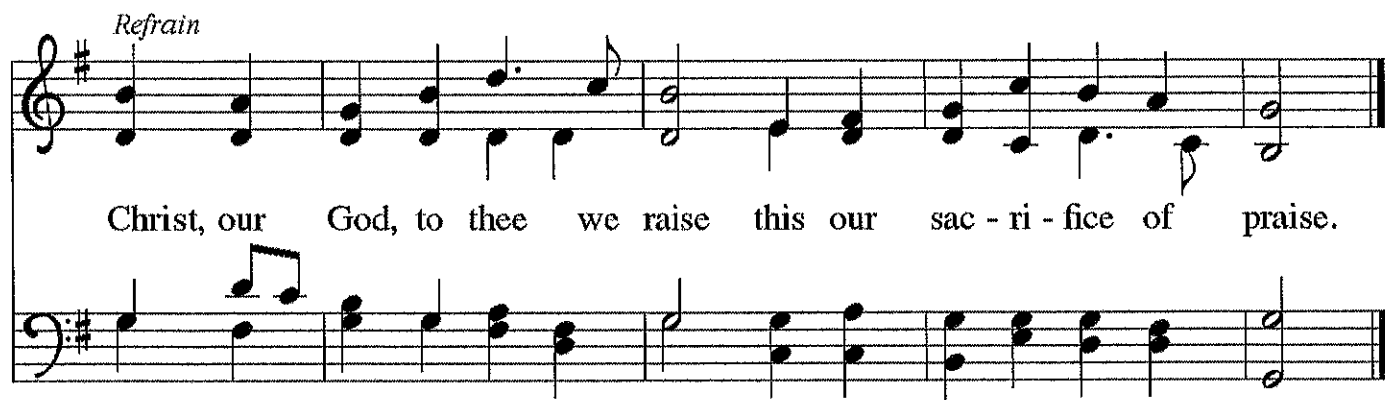
For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

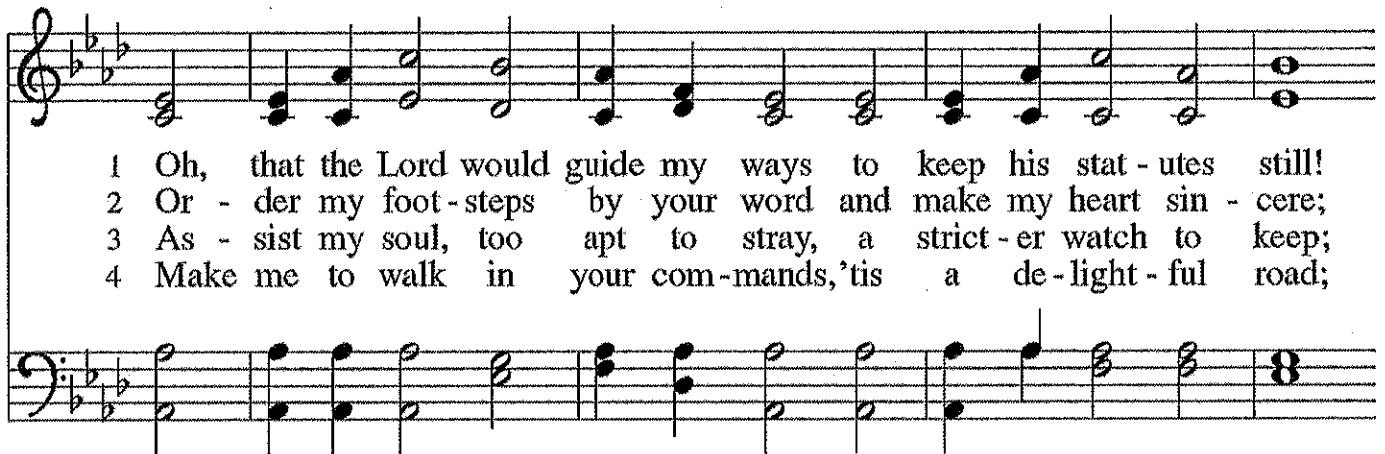


for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

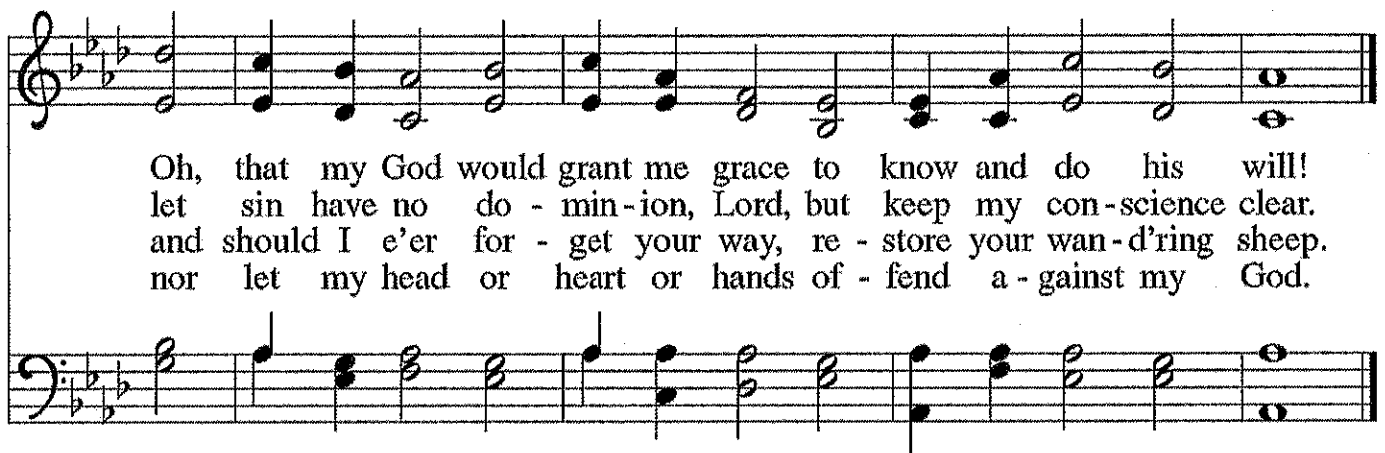


Refrain
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



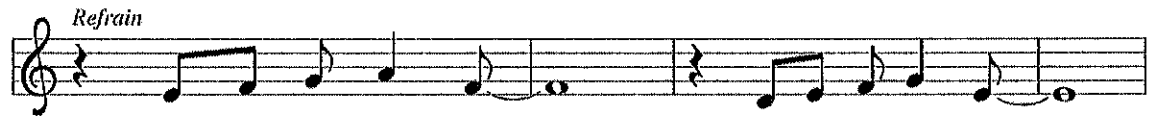
1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

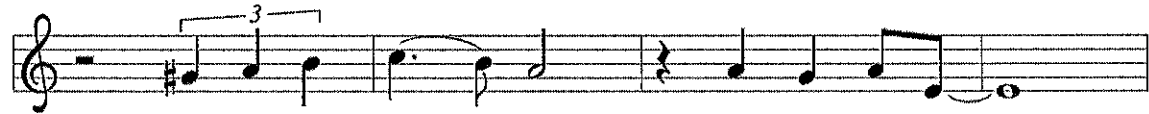
Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

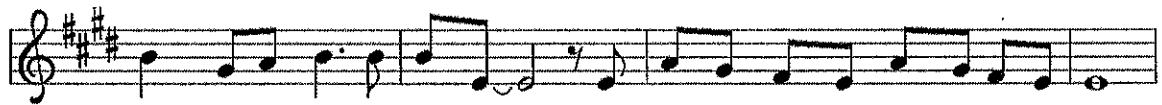
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

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Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil



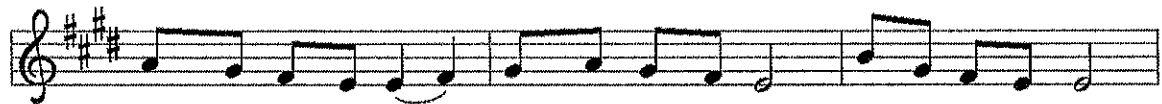
Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un - der - stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

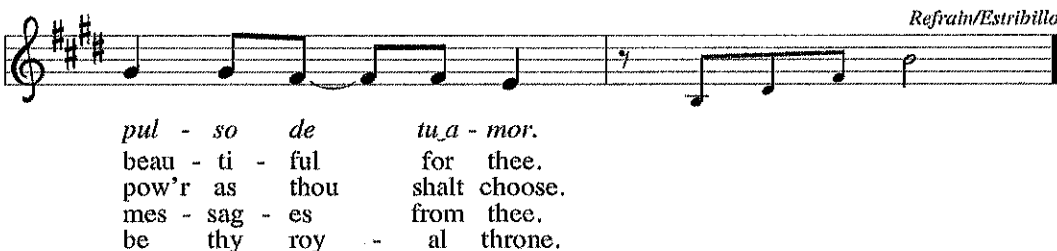
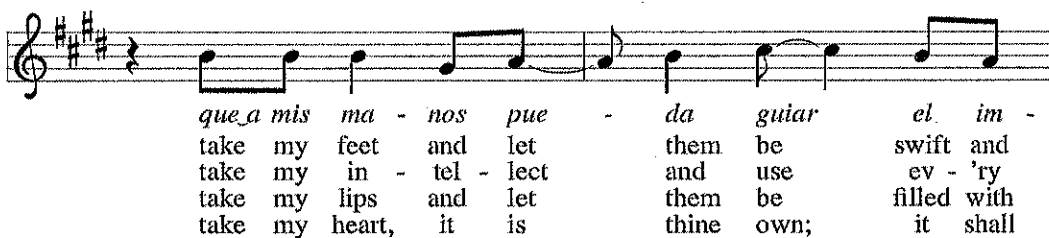
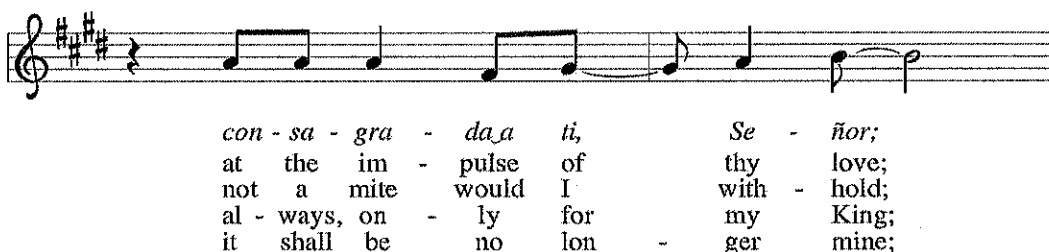
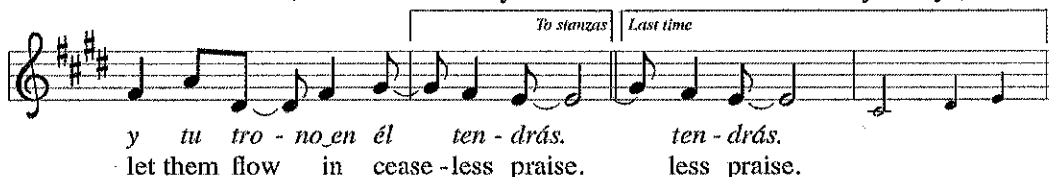
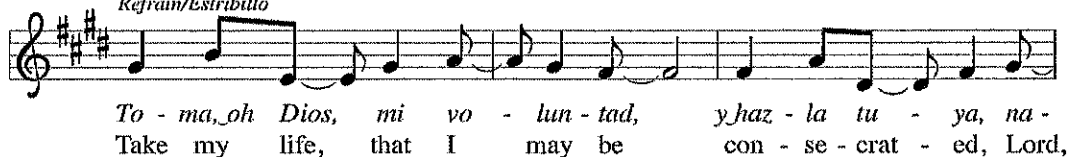
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson Used with permission of OneLicense.net A-731185.

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Take My Life, That I May Be

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad

Refrain/Estribillo



2 Que mis pies tan sólo en pos
de lo santo puedan ir,
y que a ti, Señor, mi voz,
se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo

3 Que mis labios al hablar
hablen sólo de tu amor;
que mis bienes dedicar
yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo

4 Que mi tiempo todo esté
consagrado a tu loor;
que mi mente y su poder
sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



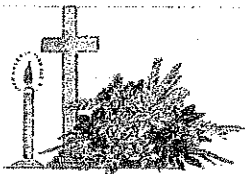
GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 31 & September 1, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheranelldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



Altar Flowers

The Flowers on the altar are given by Carol Marten in loving memory of her husband, Jerry Marten, on their 65th Wedding Anniversary date.

If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheranelldridge.com



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Ron McFate	Jim Schneider	Kelly
Ann Kuehl	Gary Oerman	Shawn
Kathy Stoltz	Kat Franks	Tim
Steve Mixdorf	Ed Stoltz	Joyce
Henry Storjohann	Kim Pierce	James
Dan Anderson	Barb Conklen	
Maisie Knutsen	Marilyn	



Summer Worship Outside

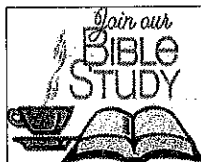
Throughout the summer, we have been worshipping at the Outdoor Chapel every other Sunday morning, at 9:00 am. Please bring a lawn chair and join us outside for our last outdoor worship of this summer on **September 1**. If the weather does not cooperate, we will move worship to the sanctuary.



You are invited to come and be a part of the music and worship ministry at Faith! Our choirs will start up again on Wednesday, September 4. People of Praise (POP) will be from 6:00-6:55 p.m., and Resounding Joy chime choir will be from 7:00-8:15 p.m. (Both groups rehearse in the sanctuary.) Anyone high school age and up is welcome to sing in POP and, although no experience playing chimes is required to participate in Resounding Joy, an ability to read music is a practical requirement. If you have any questions, please contact our Music Director, Sue Becker (susan.becker1995@gmail.com). Hope you can join us! Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Do you love to bake? Bread bakers for the communion loaves are needed for the balance of this year. Please sign up on the bulletin board at church.



Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us this Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm, as we read and discuss the scriptures for the week ahead.



Join us on **Sunday, September 8**, for our monthly **Congregational Breakfast** following the 9 am worship service. It is our hope that these intergenerational congregational breakfasts will be an opportunity for us to grow in faith and in relationship with one another.



Are you interested in making sure Faith is available for all people looking to connect with Jesus? Join our online streaming team by sign up online

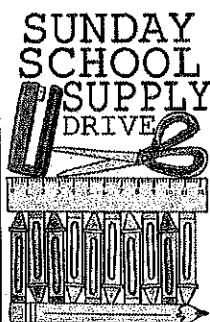
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EABA62CAAF85-video>



CHURCHES UNITED MEAL—Is food your love language? Help serve those in need. Faith is partnering with Churches United to serve a meal on **Tuesday, September 17th** at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. The Worship and Music Team will be leading the meal, and will need your help. Sign up on the bulletin board for ingredients and supplies, or to help prepare and serve the food. We hope to see you at this meaningful food ministry. Thanks for your support!



We are looking for Ushers, Readers and Communion Assistants to serve during September. Please sign up using the sheet on the bulletin board or on our website to sign up. **Thank you for serving during our worship services!**



Sunday School is fast approaching. Our Sunday School teachers this would be so grateful and appreciative if you could help build up our art supplies by making a donation to our first annual Sunday School Supply Drive. A basket located under the coat rack will gladly accept any donation you would like to make. Listed below are the supplies that are needed. Thanks so much for your help. **Glue, glue sticks, markers, assorted stickers, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, cotton balls, star stickers, pom poms, tissue paper squares, water color paints (the ones in the cases – less messy than the acrylic paint), paint brushes, disposable paint smocks (Amazon has them), and plain white paper plates (the cheap kind).** PLEASE NO CRAYONS OR PENCILS – WE HAVE PLENTY. Please contact Betty Strom 217-493-9329 if you have any questions. Thanks so much.



Turning shoes and clothing into opportunity

Faith is collecting new and gently worn shoes for the Eldridge Lion's Club for the Soles4Souls program. You may donate all styles, types and sizes of shoes, as long as they are gently worn. They even take mismatched singles! The donation collection will run August 12th through September 11th. More information about this program can be found at soles4souls.org.



August 24 & 25: 5:00 pm: 32, 9:00 am: 75, Online: 26, Total: 133

Saturday, August 31

Noisy Offering Weekend

12:00 pm

Private Event in Fellowship Hall

5:00 pm

Worship In Sanctuary & Online

Sunday, September 1

Noisy Offering Weekend

9:00 am

Worship In Sanctuary

10:15 am

Fellowship

Monday, September 2

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

1:00 pm

Bible Study

5:30 pm

Food Pantry

6:30 pm

VFW Meeting

6:30 pm

Jubilation

Wednesday, September 4

5:00 pm

Confirmation Dinner

5:30 pm

Confirmation Conversations

6:00 pm

People of Praise

7:00 pm

Youth Group

7:00 pm

Resounding Joy

Thursday, September 5

6:30 pm

Team Night

7:30 pm

Executive Team Meeting

Friday, September 6

9:30 am

Food Pantry

Saturday, September 7

5:00 pm

Worship In Sanctuary & Online

Sunday, September 8

9:00 am

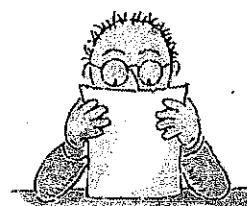
Worship In Sanctuary

10:15 am

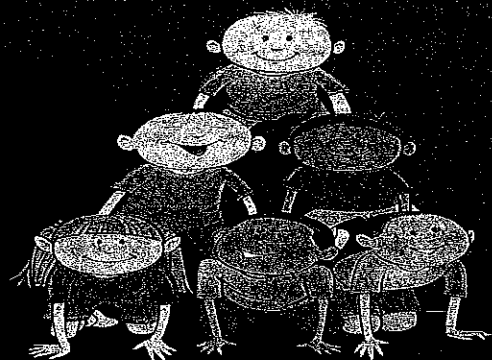
Congregational Breakfast & Sunday School
Rally Day

6:30 pm

4H



*This Week
at a Glance*



Join Us for Rally Day!

Come join us at 10:15 am Sunday morning, September 8, for free breakfast and Rally Day celebration!

Regular Sunday School classes for all kids ages 3 preschool—6th grade will begin on Sunday, September 15, at 10:15 am.

We look forward to seeing you!

*** If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Pastor Heather.