

July 26, 2026 † Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION



***"The kingdom of
heaven is like . . ."***

Matthew 13: 31, 33, 44, 45, 47, 52

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Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting IV
Christ Lutheran Church, Newburgh
Livestreamed from Christ Lutheran
at 9:30 am
facebook.com/christnewburgh

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW pg. 116

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

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

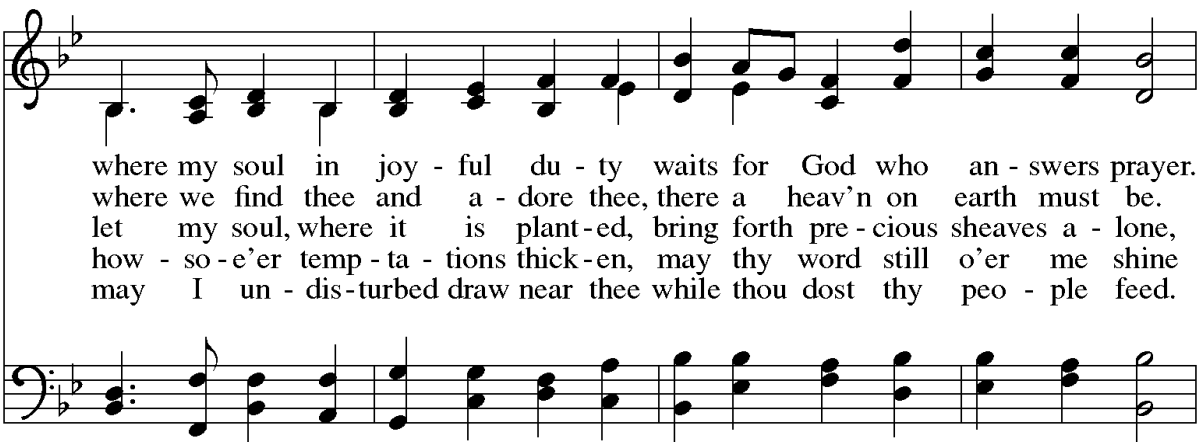
P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

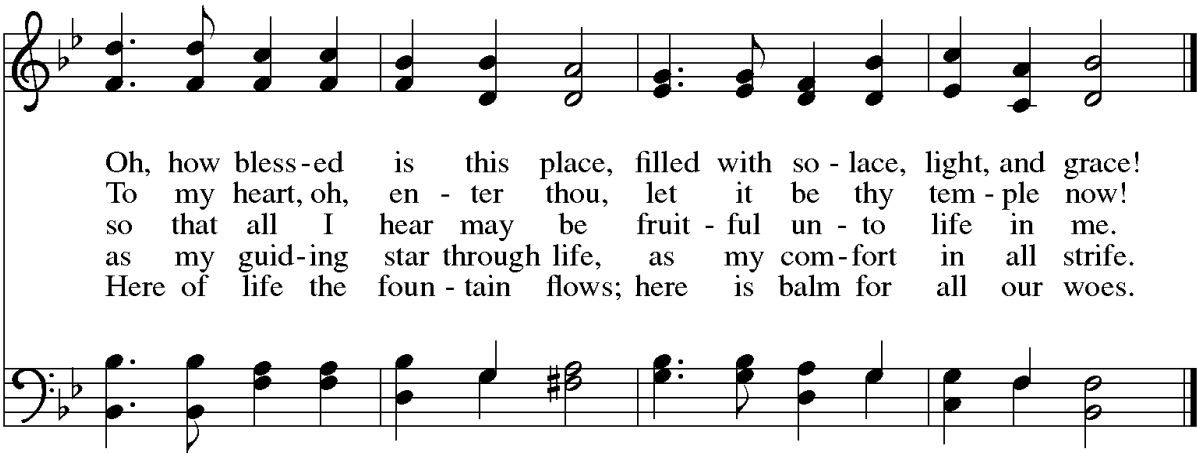




1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

APOSTOLIC GREETING pg. 147

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

C And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 148

Cantor



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

A11



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**



SERVICE OF THE WORD



FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3: 5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

R The First Lesson is from the 3rd chapter of 1 Kings.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

R The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 119: 129-136

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)

¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**

¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant because I long for | your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me, as you always do to those who | love your name. R**

¹³³Order my footsteps | in your word; let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me, and I will keep | your commandments.**

¹³⁵Let your face shine up- | on your servant and teach | me your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears, because people do not | keep your teaching. R**



SECOND LESSON: Romans 8: 26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.



R The Second Lesson is from the 8th chapter of St. Paul's letter to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

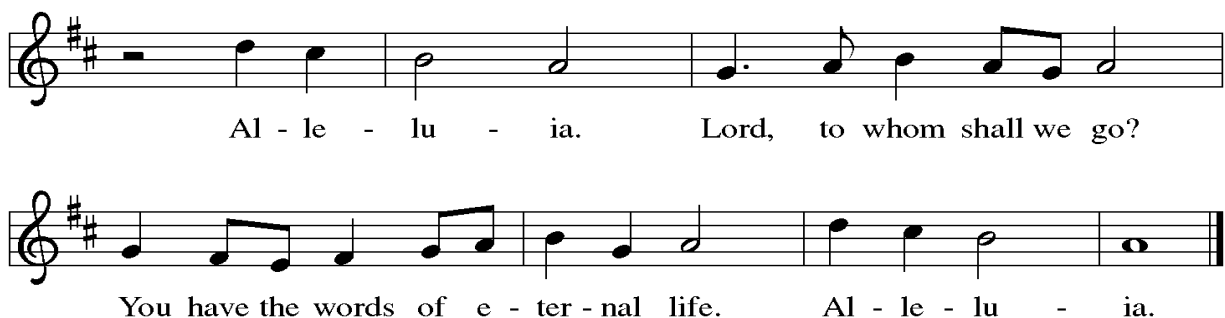
³⁷No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

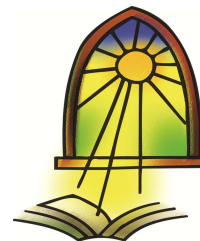


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION pg. 151



GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

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

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON



Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 119: 121-128.

Tuesday (Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians)

Ephesians 6: 10-18.

Wednesday (Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of

Bethany; Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030) Proverbs 10: 1-5.

Thursday Psalm 145: 8-9, 14-21. **Friday** Romans 9: 6-13.

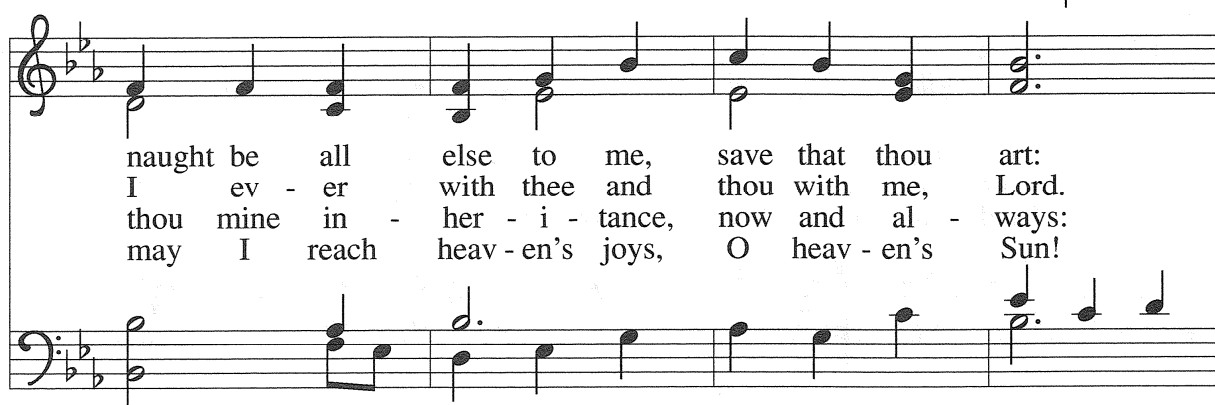
Saturday Isaiah 44: 1-5.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

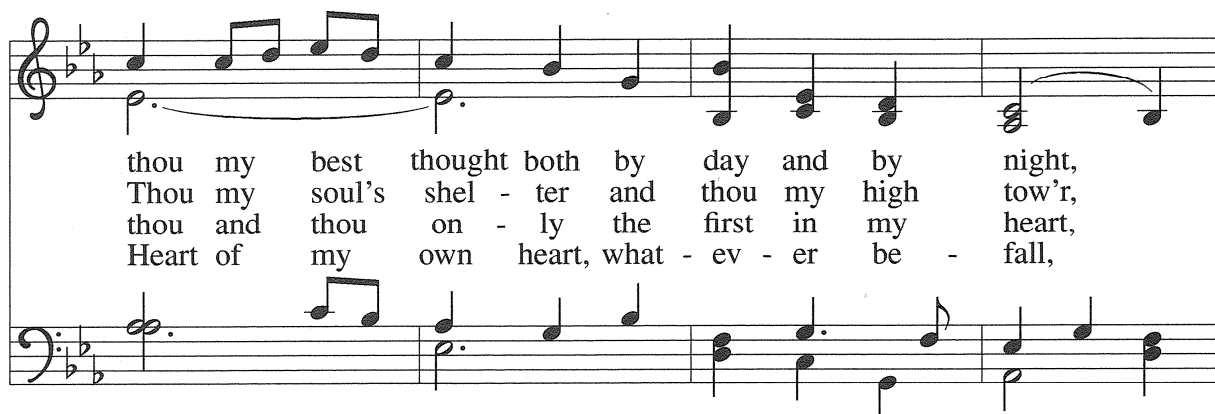
Isaiah 55: 1-5; Psalm 145: 8-9, 14-21; Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21.



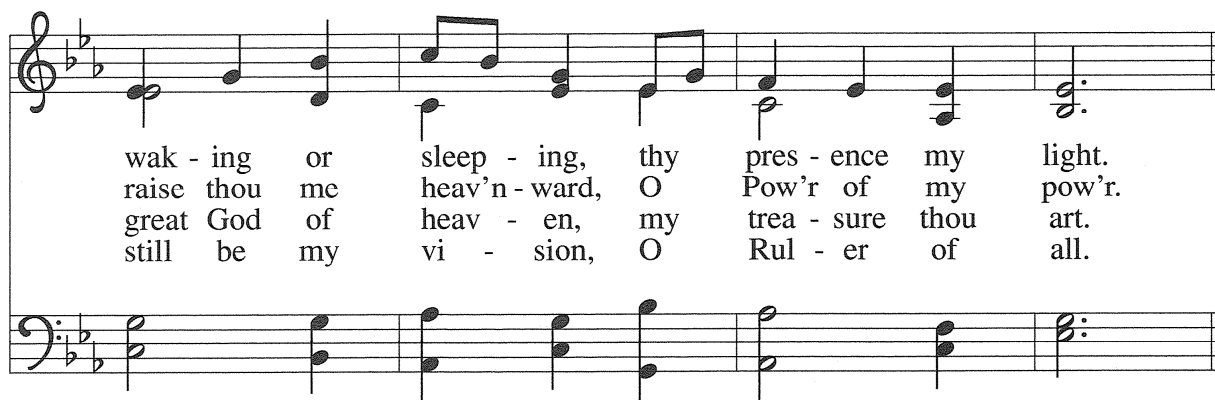
1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

APOSTLES' CREED pg. 127

**C 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of the text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

R Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Silence

After each prayer petition:

R God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**



R Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**



Per the Music and Worship Committee, feel free to again shake hands with others during the sharing of the peace, but please also respect others if they do not want to. If you prefer not to make contact with someone, either simply wave or raise your palm toward them. Please also remember this is not a time for visitation – come to coffee hour to catch up with other members.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

ELW 692

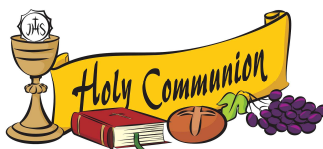
We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you. We lift our
voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERTORY PRAYER pg. 129



A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



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.

P 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:

pg. 153

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

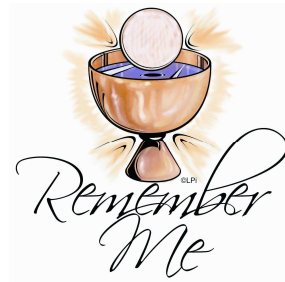
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

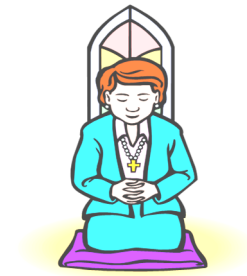
P In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.



LORD'S PRAYER pg. 154

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
 C **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

P Jesus has come among us. Come, share in his feast.
 C **Thanks be to God.**



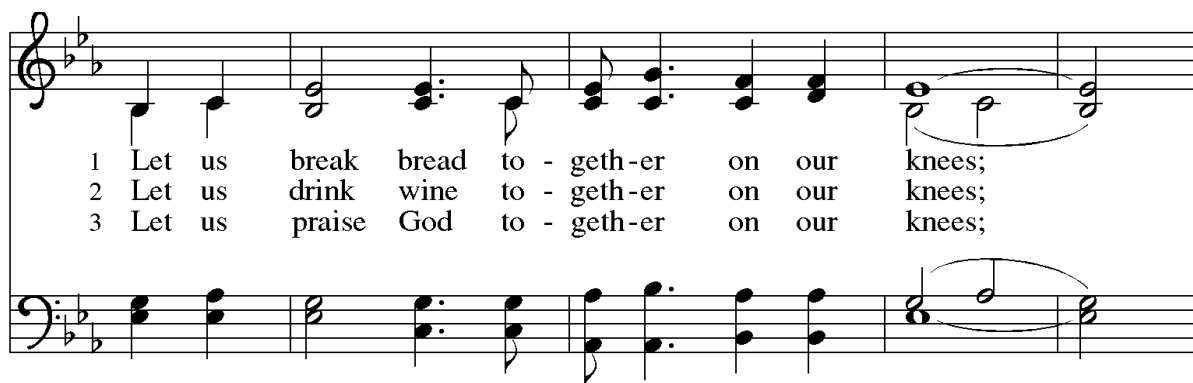
LAMB OF GOD pg. 154

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.

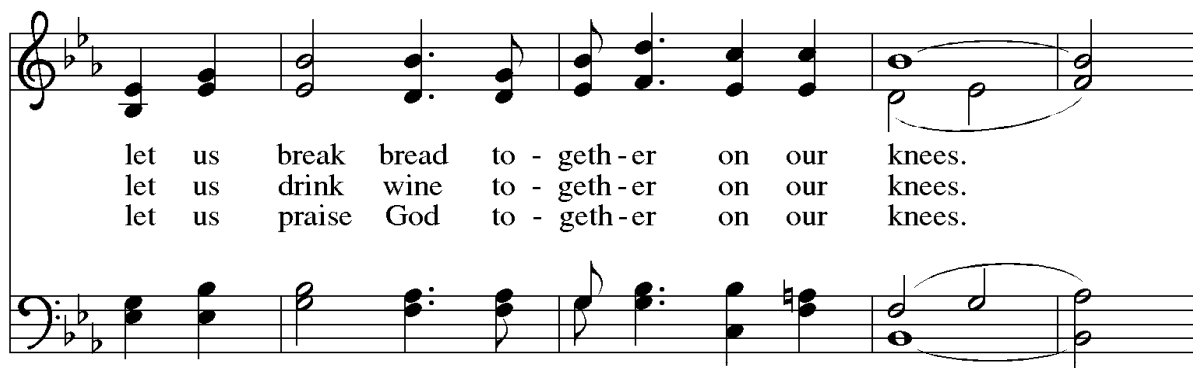
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ELW 471

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

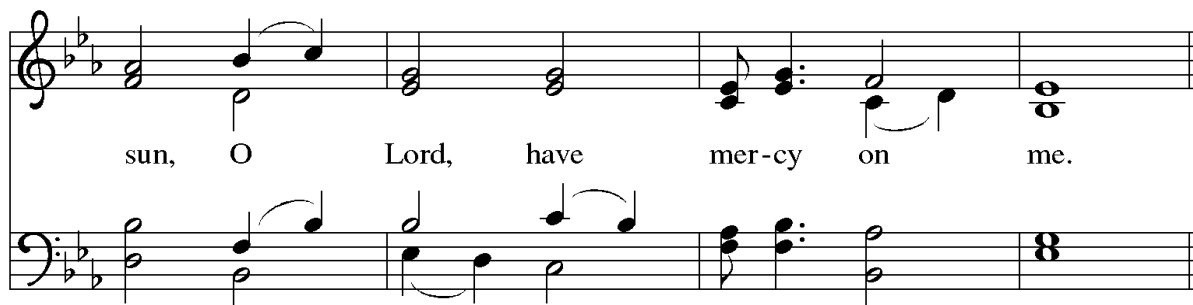


let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace unto everlasting life.

C Amen.



POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 207



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



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER pg. 136

A Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power
of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and
in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



RECESSIONAL HYMN

IN THEE IS GLADNESS

ELW 867



1 In thee is glad - ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus, sun - shine of my
2 Je - sus is ours! . . We fear no pow - ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv - en the gifts of heav - en, thou the
death. He sees and bless - es in worst dis - tress - es; he can



true re - deem - er art. Our souls thou wak - est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto - ry tell of his



break - est. Who trusts thee sure - ly has built se - cure - ly
glo - ry with heart and voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es



and stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
in him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing,
glad - ness, tri - umph o'er sad - ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



July 26, 2026 † Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” In a single sentence several ancient stories are evoked, and yet, by the introduction of a few new terms the traditional sense of these stories is radically transformed. Three measures of flour is an ephah, somewhere around a bushel. That is a lot of flour. It is three measures or an ephah that Abraham causes to be prepared for the angels of God at Mamre. In the new temple that is imagined and described by the prophet Ezekiel, the grain offerings will be an ephah of flour baked by the priests apart from the people. Yet the one who welcomes the outsiders to table says this: the dominion of God is like leavened holy bread baked by a woman. No wonder the leaven is hid. All the meal—enough for Abraham, enough for the new temple, enough for meeting God—is leavened, to be feast for all who long to meet with God in the same way that Jesus’ unclean death is made to be such a feast. This dominion of God, then, is not what had been expected: it comes with a radical grace to the outsiders and the sinners.

—Gordon W. Lathrop, *Holy Things: A Liturgical Theology* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993), 24-25.

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

Emily Stuercke, Pianist

Volunteer, Usher

Dan Madrid, Cantor

Deacon Irma Bahr-Madrid, Reader

Laura Kohlmann, Communion Assistant

Deacon Irma Bahr-Madrid, Children’s Message

the Rev. Dr. Mary Lou Baumgartner, Presiding and Preaching



***DURING THIS TIME OF MANY VIRUSES
ATTEND (facemasks optional) or***

**All worship services livestreaming at
facebook.com/christnewburgh**

**Worship with Holy Communion
Each Sunday at 9:30 am**