

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 21, 2025
15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE: Processional – Richard Hillert

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

During the Confession you may either stand or kneel as you are able.

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

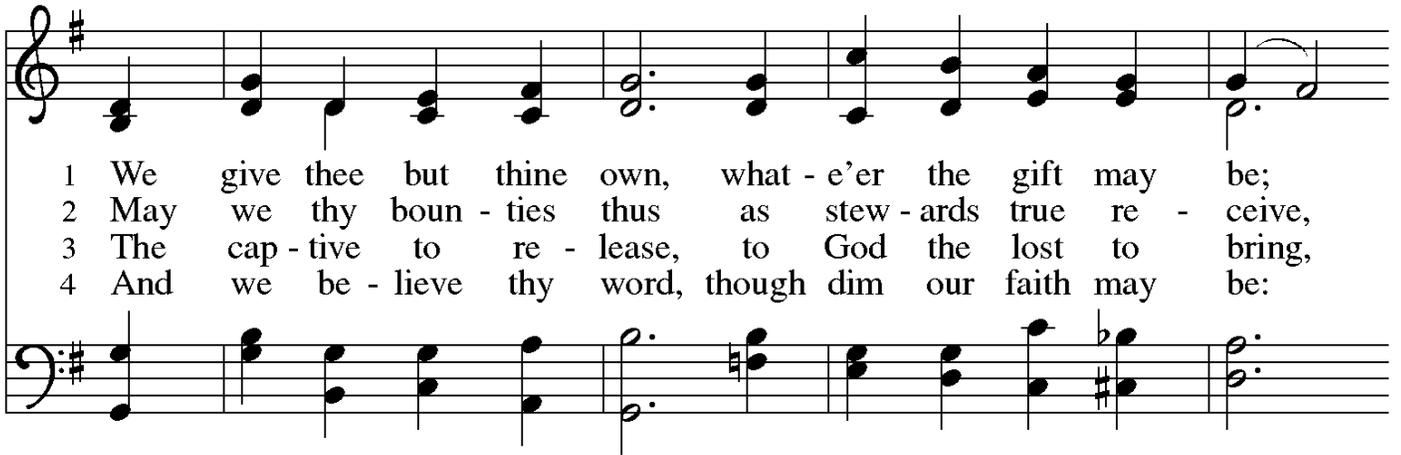
P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

GATHERING HYMN: "We Give Thee but Thine Own"



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

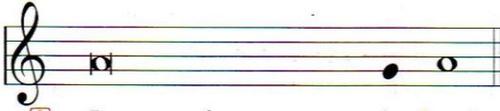
APOSTOLIC GREETING:

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.

KYRIE:

May be spoken or sung.



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



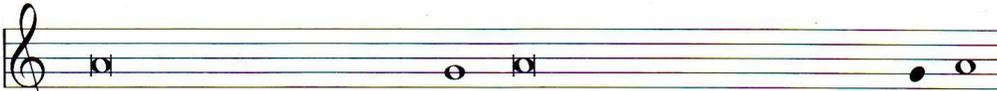
C Lord, have mer - cy.



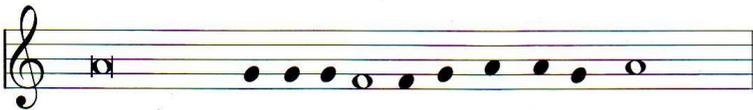
A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



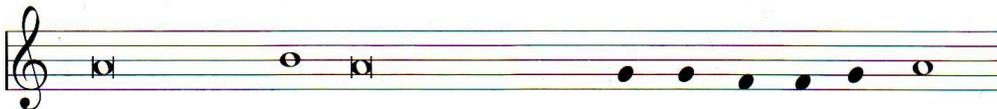
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



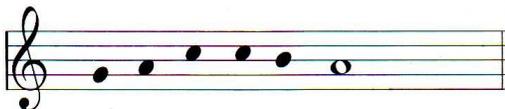
and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



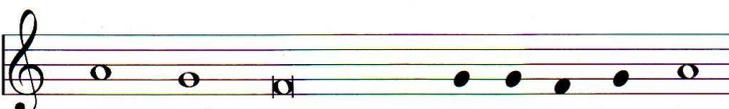
A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE:



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



B 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



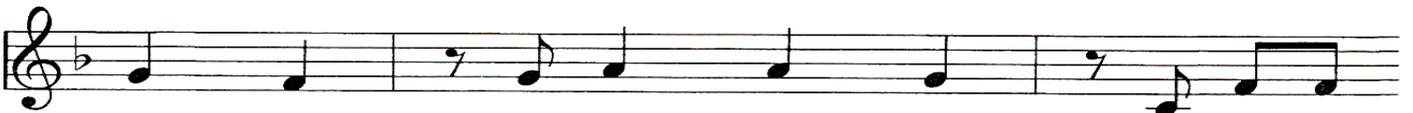
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



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.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON**READINGS FOR TODAY**

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

see back of bulletin

PSALM 113

*Spoken responsively, the Lector speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold print**.*

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

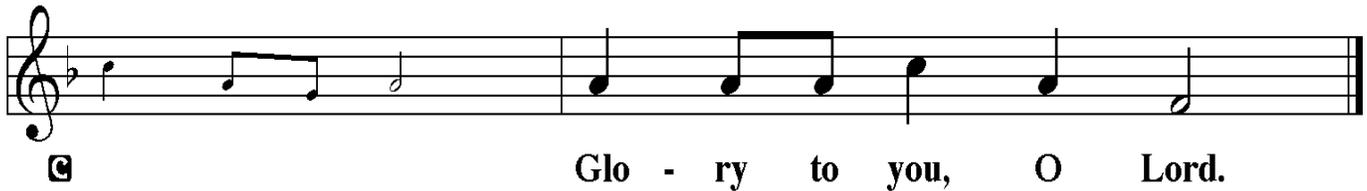
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Please stand as you are able.

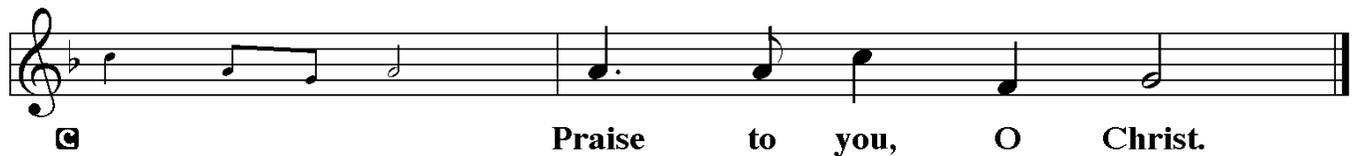


GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 16:1-13

see back of bulletin



After the reading the minister says: "The Gospel of the Lord"



Please be seated

SERMON: "Holy Shrewdness"

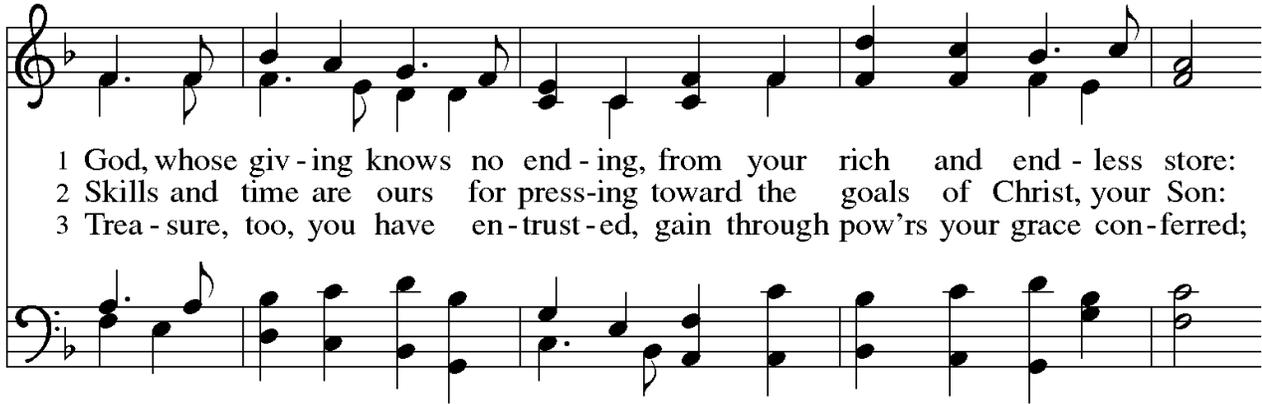
Pastor Amy Bartleson Balcam



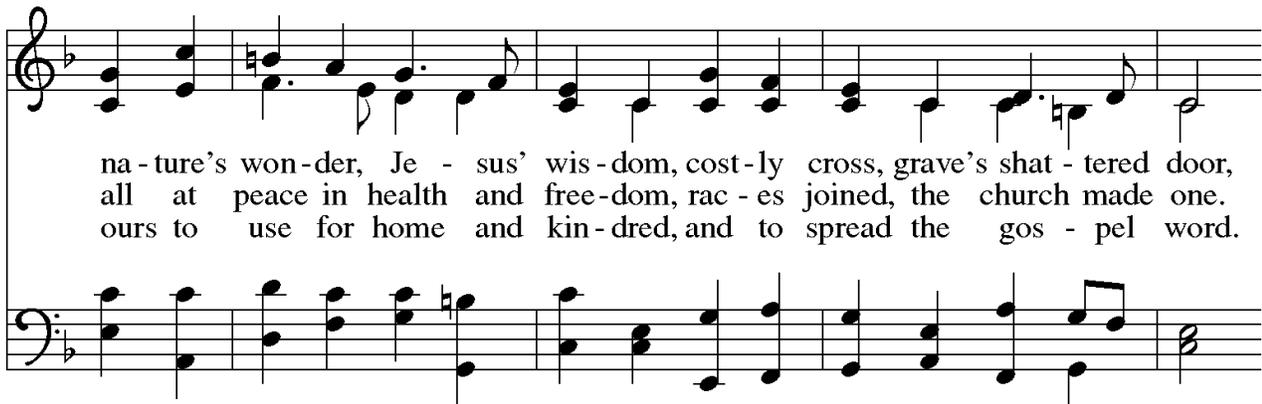
TODAY'S
SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

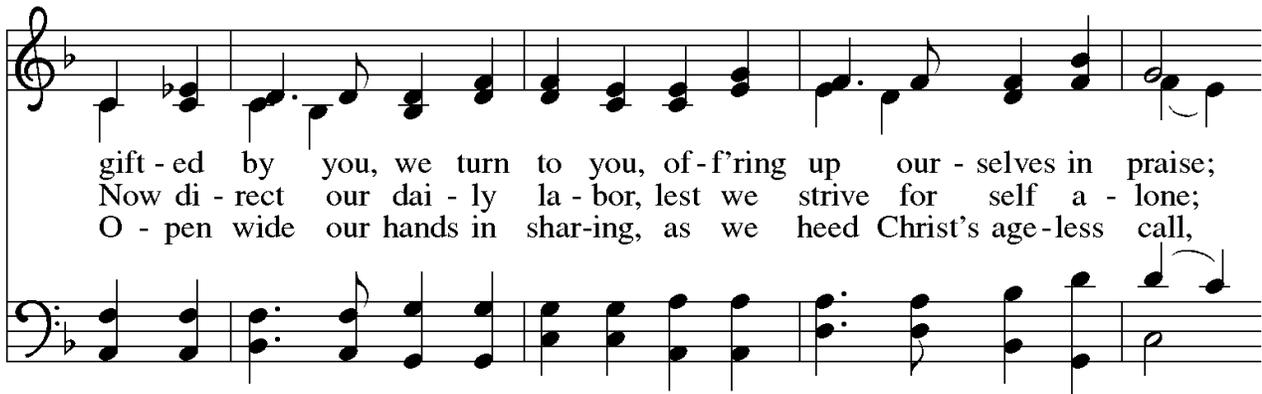
HYMN OF THE DAY: “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”



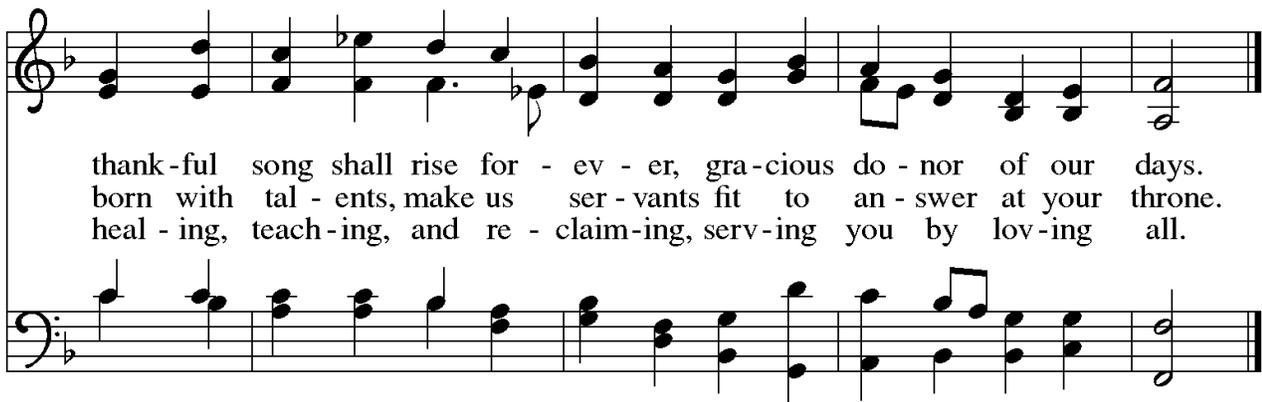
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
 all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
 ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
 Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
 O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

APOSTLES' CREED:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

A: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the PEACE of the Lord with one another.

**ANTHEM: “Be Thou My Vision” – Alice Parker**

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
nought be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with the one.*

*Riches, I heed not, nor man's empty praise.
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heav'ns joys O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A. Merciful Father,

C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

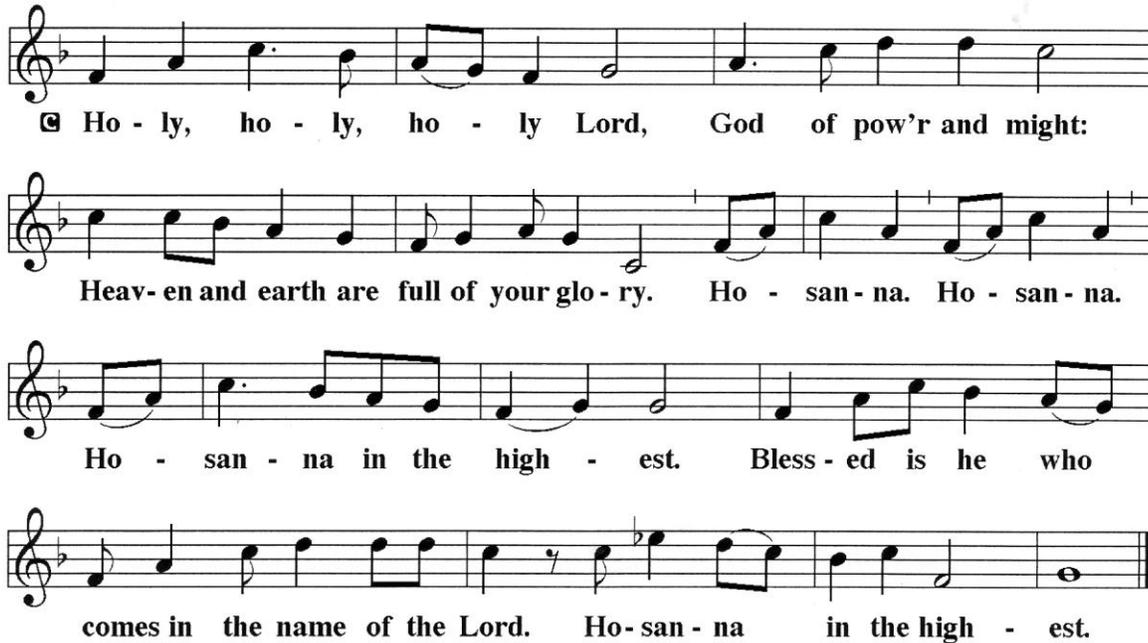
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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. 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 - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

C. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

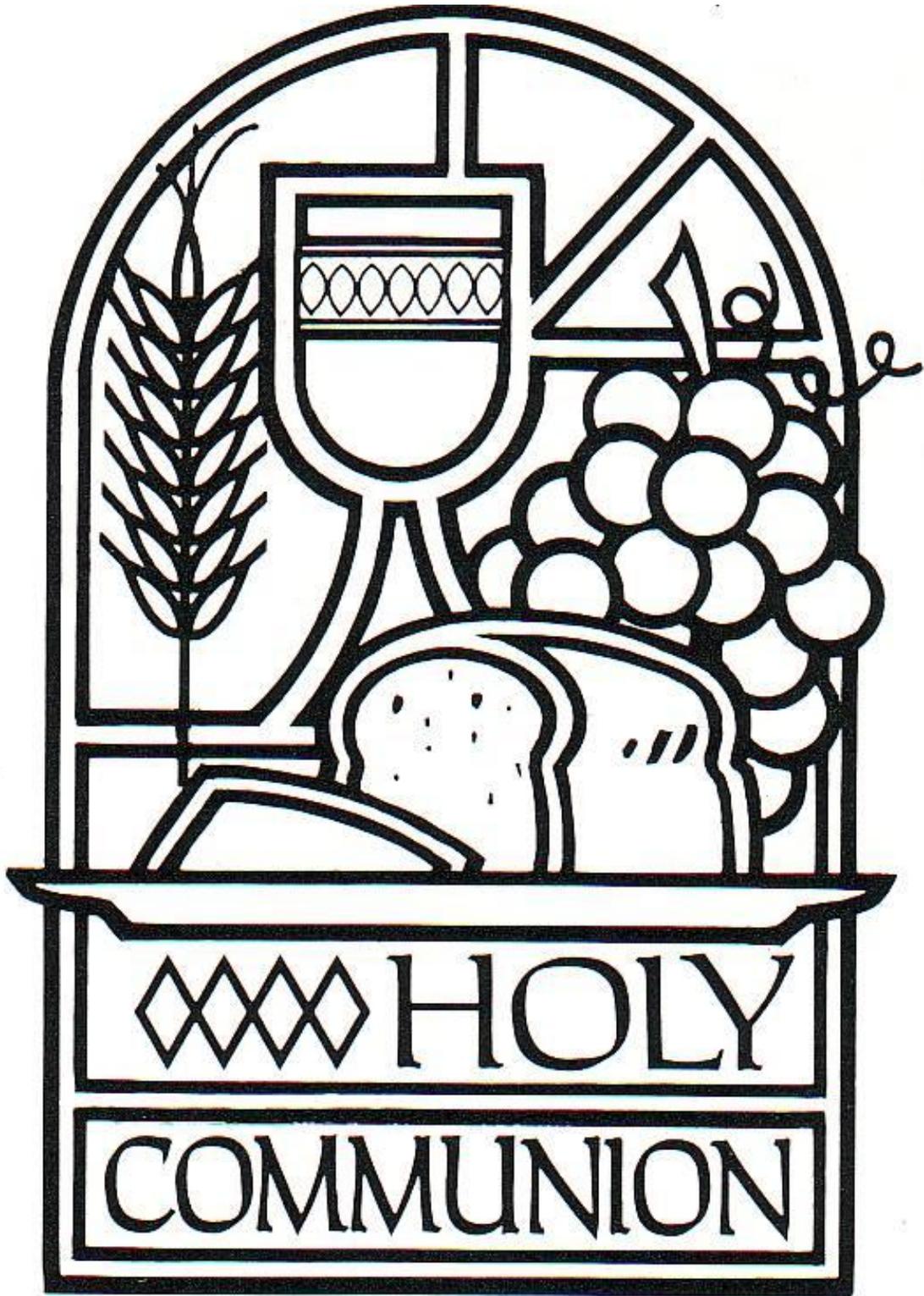
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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. Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.



*Sit***HOLY COMMUNION:**

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the “real presence” of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.

AGNUS DEI:


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.

Please stand as you are able

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

P. 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

BENEDICTION:

P. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
 Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893
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FESTAL SONG
 SM

DISMISSAL:

- A. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: "My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker!" – J. G. Vierling

Today's altar flowers are given by the Fuhs family in honor of Josh's birthday, and by Bob and Lucie Stricker in honor of Josh and Karla's anniversary.



THANKS FOR

Worshiping

WITH US