

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
October 11, 2026
20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Kate Ester Johnston was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA in 2011. She has served as a parish Pastor/ Head of Staff, Christian Formation Director, and a Board Certified Healthcare Chaplain throughout her ministry. She has worked in large and small churches, as well as hospitals and hospices. She has a Bachelors Degree in Social Work from Hope College and a Masters of Divinity degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. Kate lives in Westfield with her husband, Kirk, daughter, Isla, and Old English Sheepdog, Leni. In her free time she enjoys creating art, being outside, and reading.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS AND SCHOOL KITS

P: Creator God, you have entrusted us to be your witnesses in the world and you give us the tools to do this work. Thank you for the skills to create beautiful quilts that will wrap our neighbors in your love. Thank you for hands that put together kits to care for families in need. Bless the recipients of our gifts and help us to continue to care for our neighbors all around the world, even those who are far away and sometimes hard to reach.

C: Amen.

PRELUDE: “Now We Join in Celebration” – Paul Manz

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,

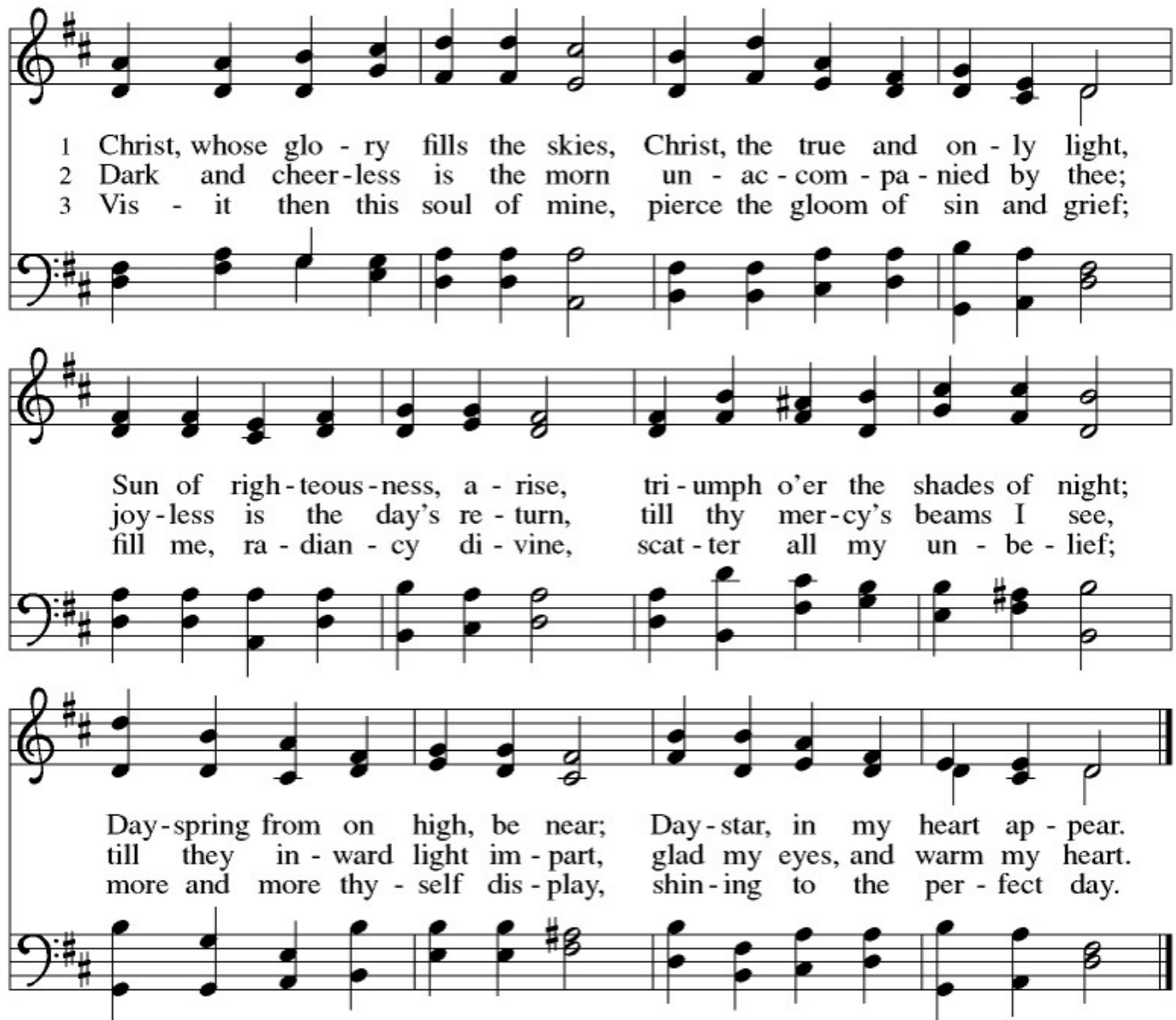
C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart: we have not loved our

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: “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
 joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
 fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

All public domain

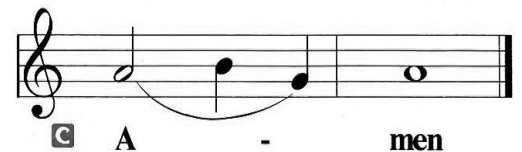
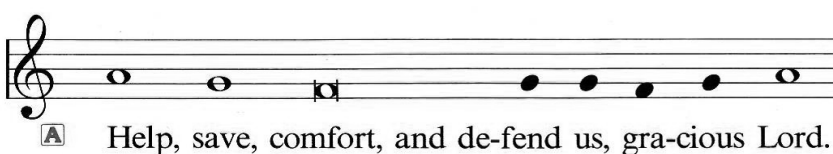
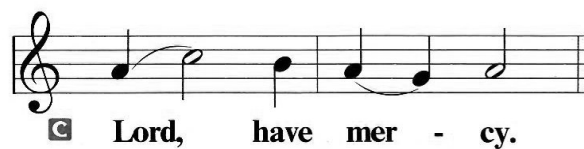
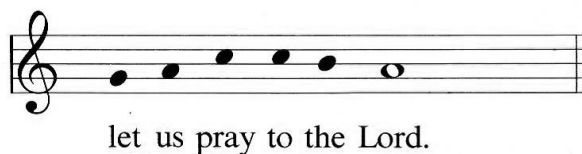
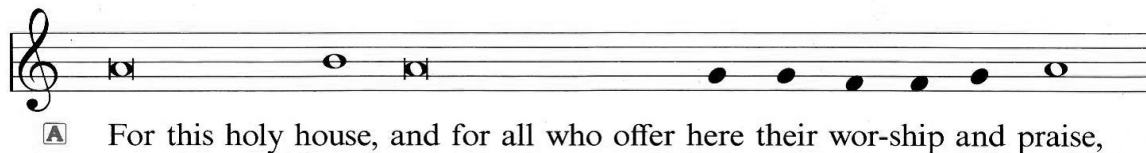
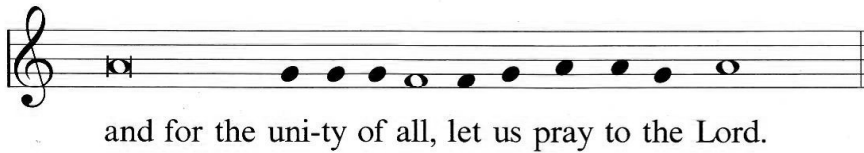
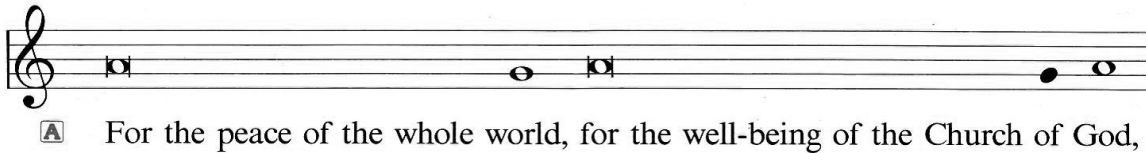
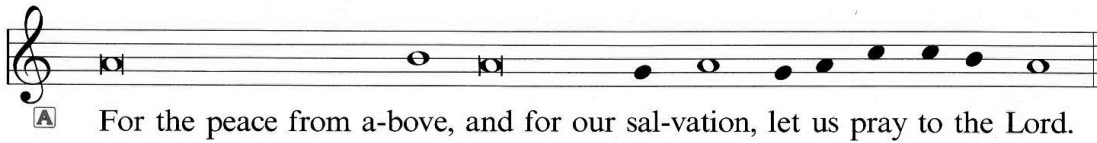
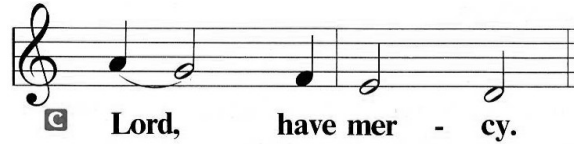
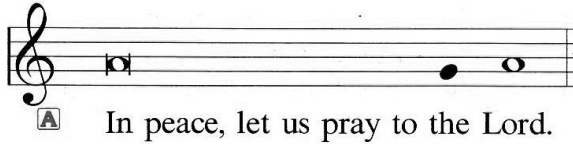
APOSTOLIC GREETING:

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.



HYMN OF PRAISE:



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo-ple 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



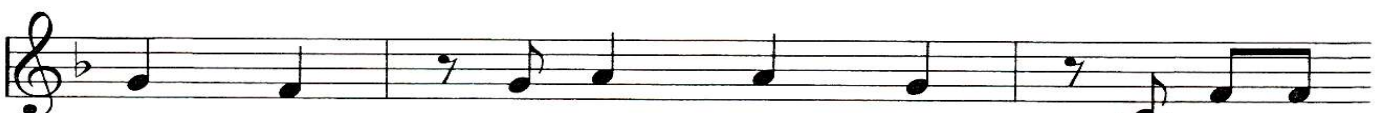
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



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.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

READINGS FOR TODAY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

see back of bulletin

PSALM 23

Choir and congregation all sing:



¹ The LORD[|] is my shepherd;
I shall not[|] be in want.

² The LORD makes me lie down[|] in green pastures
and leads me be-[|] side still waters.

³ You restore my[|] soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways[|] for your name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall[|] fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they[|] comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence[|] of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is[|] running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days[|] of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the[|] LORD forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

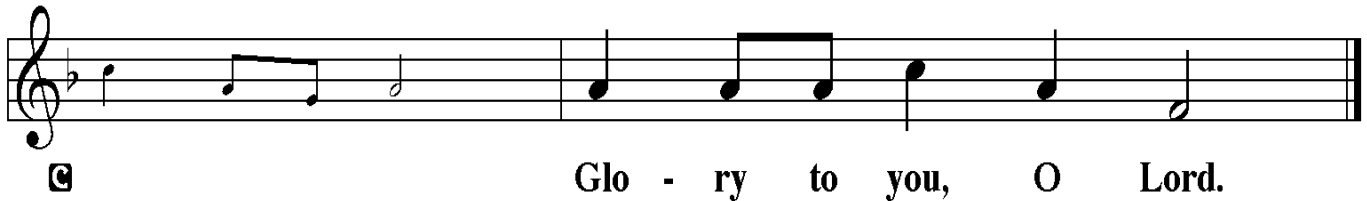
Please stand as you are able.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

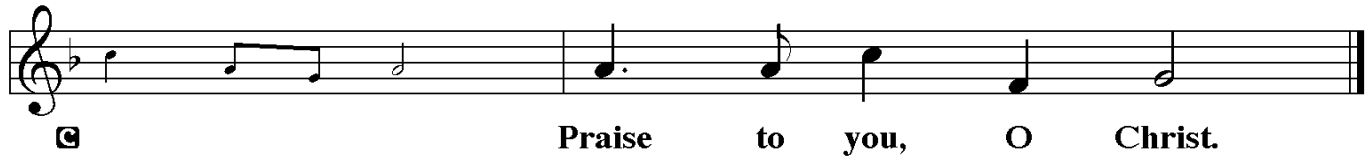
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 22:1-14**

see back of bulletin



After the reading the minister says: “The Gospel of the Lord”



Please be seated

SERMON:

Rev. Kate Ester Johnston

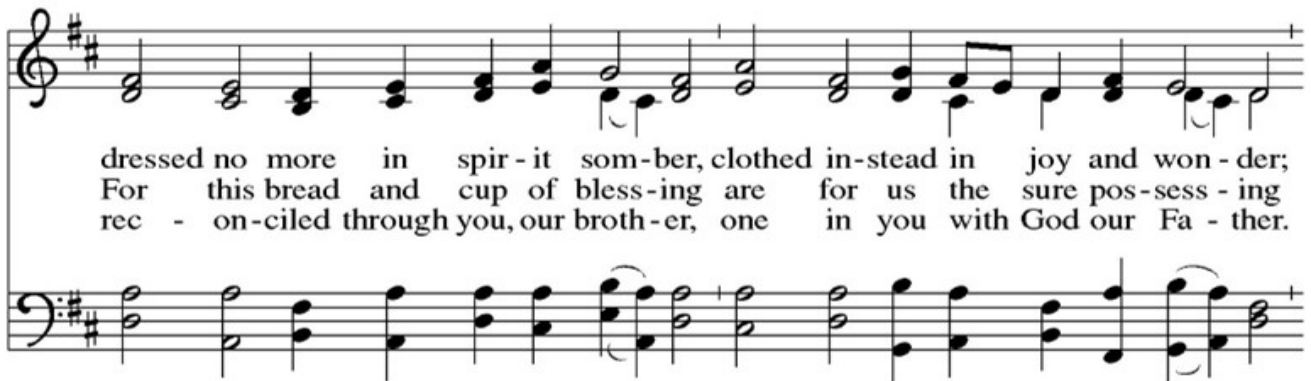


Please stand as you are able.

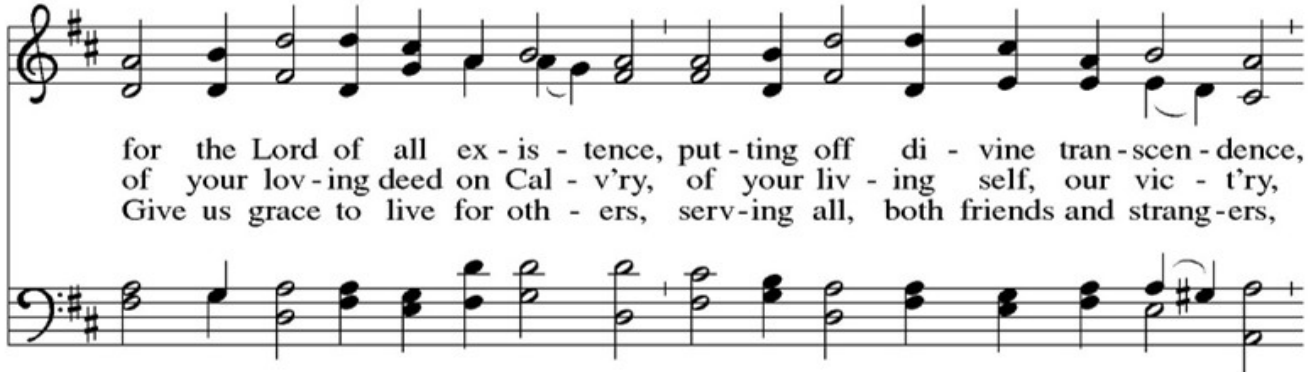
HYMN OF THE DAY: "Now We Join in Celebration"



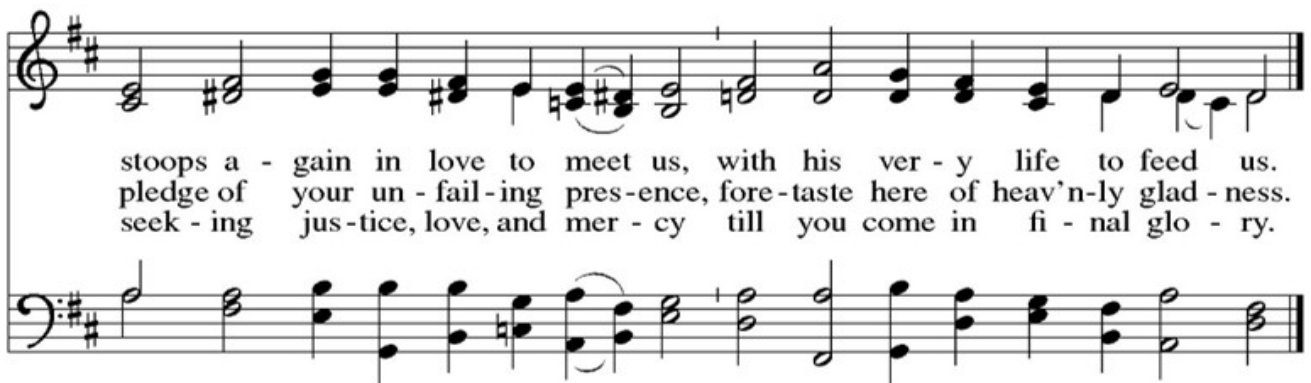
1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
 For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
 rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
 of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
 Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
 pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.
 seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990
 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
 Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

A: Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.



CHOIR ANTHEM

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:

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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



Please be seated.

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.

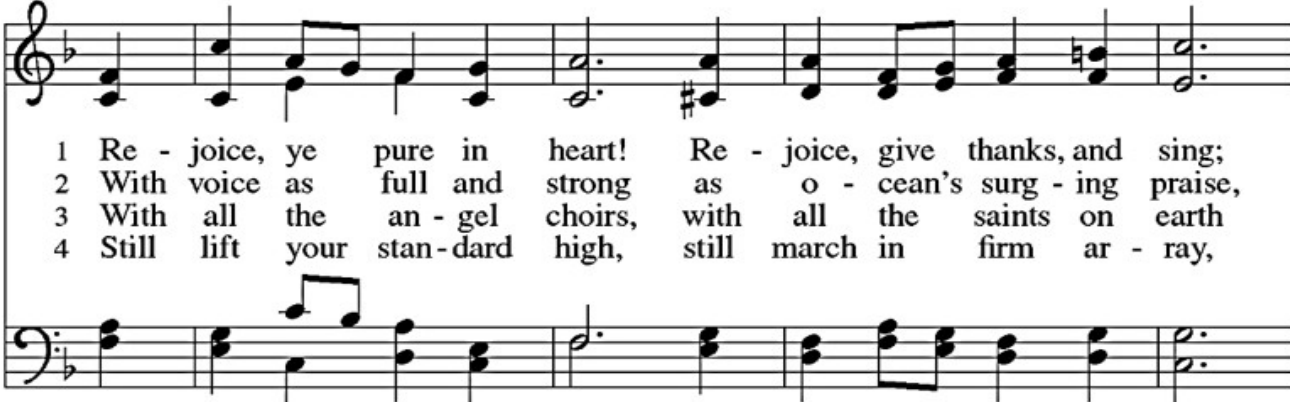
C: Amen.

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: "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
 Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

DISMISSAL:

A: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: “Toccata in D Minor” – Gaston Belier



**Today's altar flowers are offered by the Strickers in honor of
Kristel & Martin's anniversary.**

Thank you for worshipping with us!